TURTLE'S EXPEDITION RESCRIBBLED

VOLUME 1

:RISE OF THE HOODSTERS

TURTLEDOODLE1

SUPERTAILS32

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CHAPTER 1: TOURNEY ‘VENTURE

It was a peaceful day on Planet Perdiah. Everything was so great; the trees, the weather and so on… In the middle of all of this, a local fisherman was fishing by a nearby lake. His life was very simple; go to the same lake everyday at the same hour and fish there until the sunset. But this time, he went there an hour earlier. He didn’t have much reasoning for that either, he just wanted to because “why not” Little did he know that he was in for an adventure of a lifetime.

Who was that?!

The fisherman heard something coming from the nearby forest. He heard rumors of a “forest monster lurking deep within the forest” from the townsfolk of his hometown, Town Mercia. He grabbed his trustworthy fishing rod and walked slowly towards the forest. And suddenly;

* eating berries *
Uhm… hello?

Eek!
* hits him with the fishing rod *
Back off, beast!
I am fully armed!

OW! HEY!
What’s the big idea?!

Wait, huh?
Aren’t you the “forest monster”?

The what now?

Don’t play dumb with me, you creature!
Leave me be!

So- sorry! I will go now!

* watches as the creature ran towards the forest *
Hmph.
Well that takes cares of that thing.

Wait a second!
Can I ask you something, mister..?

AH! GO AWAY!

N-No, I don’t mean any harm!
Please hear me out!

…
Fine but you really gotta convince me to not call the guards on you!

Okay, okay.
Ehem, I was just minding my business eating berries until you interrupted me!

Liar!

I come fishing here almost everyday and I haven't seen a trace of your ugly face once!
Explain yourself!

I-I normally don't have much company around here.
I never knew you were a fan of this place as well!

Save it kid, did you want to ask me about something or what?

Well, I was planning to…
Do you want to hear about it?

Hm… it depends.
Life has been pretty boring recently so I wouldn't mind just messing around with a random stranger I just met.

Well, that's a bit concerning.

Oh please, like YOU are the one to talk!
Just look at your clothes!

* gets embarrassed *
Aw…

Anyway, enough fooling around.
What do you want to say… um… seriously what do I call you?

* smiles *
The name is G Doodle.

Cool.

Yours?

Do I have to say it?

Pleaseeeeeeeee?

Fine, the name is Bushra.
I’m a fisherman, you see.

I could figure that out, yeah.
* pulls out a comically large poster from his backpack *
I found this cool poster on my way here and it says that only duos can join in! It’s in a cool looking casino too!

Hm… fascinating.
What is the reward?

Let me check… it’s apparently a gold trophy with a cool looking gem in front of it.
Look at it yourself!

* looks at the poster and starts smirking *
You know what, G?
I feel like this is going to be the start of a beatiful friendship!

Sweet! So happy that you accepted!

Now, where is this so called “casino”?

It’s pretty far away from Town Mercia.
Perhaps we take a ride there?

Good idea, will a bus do?

Yeah, why not?

You are going to pay for us, right?

I… sure?

Great to hear it, G!
Let’s go then!

They walked towards Town Mercia while getting to know more about each other. G was really happy to finally have a new friend after so long! Bushra on the other hand had… different ideas in mind.

Time to wait for the bus…

Yo, G. When is that event happening exactly?

In about… an hour?

Oh my badness, we are going to be late!
* points at the taxi *
Come on G, we won't make it if we don't take the taxi!

Okay Bushra!
To Hooded Casino, here we come!

After driving for half an hour, they reach Hooded Casino. G expected the place to be more crowded but was surprised when he saw only five teams waiting for the tournament to start. However, Bushra notices a quite interesting figure standing in front of all of the teams.

Hello gentlemen!
My name is Hood and I would like to introduce you tooooo-

Hooded Casino.
We know.

Well, you guys are an… interesting duo.
Say pumpkins, what is your team name?
Make it sure it's a memorable one!

Team Bushra!
It rolls off the tongue.

Can we please change it to something more… decent?

Nah.

* takes notes *
I see, it's "Team Bushra" then.
Number 1020, can you help these pumpkins find the waiting room?

Always at your service, ma'am!

Heh, I like this guy.

Member #1020 shows Team Bushra where the waiting room is and then leaves the two alone. G noticed that he entered a… bunker of sorts after he left the room.

Um… I am starting to have some bad vibes about this place, Bushra…

It's probably just you.
* looks at the poster again *
Oh baby, this trophy is going to look so awesome!

That's… nice to hear.

And then suddenly, they heard someone talking through a megaphone.

ATTENTION EVERYONE!
YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD BOSS, HOOD RILEY HERE!
WE CAN NOW START THE TOURNAMENT!
THE RULES ARE PRETTY SIMPLE.

IF YOU WIN ALL 3 GAMES, YOU CAN GO BACK TO YOUR HOMES WITH THIS AWESOME TROPHY!
NOW GET TO IT, PUMPKINS!
LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

Awesome!

Sweet!

YOUR FIRST GAME IS…
BOWLING!

WOO! I love bowling!
This will be a piece of cake!

You said it, G!
They won't know what hit them!

READY
SET
GO!

Then G knocks out all of the pins with a single throw.

YAY!
Did you see that, Bushra?

* looking through his phone *
Yeah, TOTALLY!
I'm just… looking at fish pictures.

Hmph.

CONGRATS TO TEAM BUSHRA, EMERALD CUTTERS AND BEAR FIGHTERS!
AS FOR THE REST OF YOU… NUMBER 1020!
PLEASE “KINDLY” TAKE THEM AWAY!

Member #1020 and the teams that lost the round left the room.

That’s… odd.

Sure is.
* closes his phone *
Man, this is surprisingly boring.

You didn’t even do anything, dude!

Oh shut up, G!

Then the two hear gunshots coming from the outside. Everyone in the room started freaking out and tried to escape from the building. They were locked inside.

WHAT WAS THAT?!
HELLO?!

Ssh… be quite you moron!
Maybe it came from somewhere else?

EHEM.
SORRY FOR THAT, PUMPKINS.
WE JUST HAD TO “GET RID” OF THEM.
ANYWAYS, ARE WE ALL READY FOR ROUND 2?!

Um… I guess?
Bu-Bushra, I don’t think we should continue-

Are you kidding, G?!
We came here to win that trophy!
Now, shut up and listen to the mysterious hooded figure.

Okay…

THE SECOND GAME IS…
FISHING!

* chuckles *
Oh, that’s EASY!
* pulls out his fishing rod *
The other teams won’t know who they are up against!

If you say so, Bushra…

And… JACKPOT!
* pulls out the fish from the tiny pool *
THAT’S WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT!

Phew. That was pretty close…

Come to think of it… why is no one talking to us right now?

They are probably too concentrated.
Either way, we are getting closer and closer to winning this whole thing!

(sarcasm) Hooray…

AND NOW, WE ARE IN THE FINAL ROUND!
BUT BEFORE WE START THE FINAL GAME, I AM GIVING YOU ALL 10 MINUTES TO RELAX.

Oh, that's nice of her.

Meh, I would have preferred it if the game happened now but whatever.
I will just sit down and get myself comfy.

Bu- but what about the gunshots we heard a few minutes ago-

They heard another set of gunshots from outside.

SEE?!

Not my problem.

WHAT?!
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?!

Maybe, maybe not.
Who knows.
Let’s just get this over with, okay?

Before G could respond, the buff hooded figure from earlier entered the room.

Fisher dude.
Boss wants to see you.

Okay then.
Wait for me, G.

Okay…
S- stay safe!

(Why is that brat so nice to me… I guess I will find out soon enough)
* follows Member #1020 around until he points at the door in front of them *
This place?

Yes.

Hm.
* opens the door *
Uh… hello?

Hello pumpkin!
How is the tournament going?

Pretty average I would say.
Expected things to be a lot more “flashy”

* takes notes *
I see, go on.

That’s kinda about it.
One thing though, what was up with the gunshots outside?

Oh, it was nothing.
Just the usual protestors.

Protestors?

It’s… a long story.
Tell you what, Bushra.
I have a proposition for you.

Oh? What is it about?

Would you like to join me and my friendly companions?
I realized that you had a lot of potential just by watching you perform in the tournament!
So what do you say?

Hm… does this offer have any down sides to it?

Well, you won't be able to compete for one-

Yeah, pass.

But-

Don't wanna hear 'em.
I'm not giving up that trophy.

Okay then, suit yourself.

Anyway, is that it?
Can I go no-

Ma'am, we have an emergency!

A what…

Ehem, yes.
You may leave, pumpkin.
I need to talk to my "friend" here.

Alright then…

* watches as Bushra leaves her office *

What happened, Number 89?

Ma’am, THEY found our location.
They are sending their most trained man after us!

Don’t tell me that HE is leading them…

It unfortunately seems to be the case.

In that case… we might need to alter our plans a bit.
Let the remaining two teams know that the round is starting now!
I have an idea!

Back on the waiting room;

How was it, Bushra?

It was just rambling from the hooded person.
Nothing too major.

Okay then.
Glad that you are okay.

…
You are a weirdo.

ATTENTION EVERYONE!
THE FINAL GAME IS STARTING NOW!

HOLD YOUR POSITIONS!

I don’t like this…
We were supposed to start in five minutes.

Who cares?
S complaining and my follow my lead.

(tired) Of course Bushra, of course.

AND YOUR FINAL GAME IS…
SPIN THE WHEEL!

WHAT?!

IF YOU LAND ON THE GREEN SPACE, YOU WIN!
IF NOT HOWEVER, WELL… NUMBER 1020 WILL BE HAPPY TO GUIDE TO YOUR “DESTINY”!
GOOD LUCK!

How are we suppose to win?!
It’s just sheer luck!

Bu-Bushra…

SHUT UP, G!
* looks at the wheel in front of them *
I am not leaving without that trophy!

Sigh… Here goes nothing then.
* spins the wheel *
(Please land on the green space, please land on the green space)

And much to his surprise, it actually lands on the green space.

LET'S GO!

Holy crap, you actually did it!
Wait.
* realizes that the other team also landed on the green space *
So, what now?

ATTENTION EVERYONE!
YOU HAVE 3 MINUTES UNTIL YOU CAN ESCAPE FROM THE CASINO!
THE TEAM THAT ESCAPES SAFELY WILL GET THE TROPHY!
TOODLES, PUMPKINS!

THIS WASN'T ADVERTISED ON THE POSTER!

SCREW THE POSTER, WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE!

Turns out the other team also had the same idea. Both teams rush to the casino's entrance while the whole place started to break down.

WE ARE NOT GONNA MAKE IT!

NOT ON MY WATCH!
pulls out his fishing rod

This bad boy will do the trick!

WHAT?!

Watch and learn, G.

Bushra proceeds to throw the rod to the ground causing the other team to trip over it. Team Bushra took advantage of this and managed to get out of the casino. They looked back to see the entire building collapse, leaving nothing but scraps.

Wha… what happened?

Don’t know and don’t care, G.
What I’m wondering is where the trophy is…
* sees a shiny thing behind him *
THAT’S IT!
* grabs the trophy *
THE TROPHY IS HERE!

I am happy that we won but… what happened to Hood and her friends?

That’s a mystery for another day, G.

Alright then… so, what now?

Both look at the trophy.

Can we share the trophy?

Hm… let me think.
* suddenly grabs G's one hair line *
I think I would rather keep it to myself, thank you.

OW!
YOU MONSTER!

I know, buddy.
* lets go of his hair and causes G to fall over as a result *
See you never, G!

G watched as Bushra ran away into the darkness. Never to be seen again…

You will pay for this, Bushra!
I will get MY trophy back!

CHAPTER 2: THE BEGINNING OF THE CHAOS

It was yet another peaceful day on Perdiah. Everyone continued on with their usual schedules aside from G. He has searched the entirety of the forest area for a clue on Bushra's whereabouts throughout the whole night. But no lead in sight. G, still pissed about Bushra's betrayal, woke up the next day and decided to ask the townsfolk for possible clues. He entered the town and started to ask this to every person he could find. First, he sees a blonde guy sitting on the other side of the road. He looked really depressed and G couldn't tell if they were sitting there for at least a week.

Hello sir! Would you like to lend some help to this..
* points at himself *
Nice gentleman?

I would like to but never call yourself that again.
Your outfit is all messed up.

(embarrassed) Huh. I… never noticed actually.
* snaps himself out of thoughts *
But yeah, could you have possibly seen a fisherman who was carrying a giant trophy?
It would be really helpful if you did.

I'm afraid not.

A-are you sure?

Yeah, most definitely.

Uh huh…
* prepares to leave and looks back at the blonde person *
Are you… okay?

Not really, no.

Oh…
Then I guess I better get a move on-

The name’s Artender Dowell.
I have accomplished nothing of value in my entire life.
No loss, no gain, no nothing.
I tried everything I could… just to FEEL something for once.
And now I’m sitting here, doing nothing.
As always.
* takes a deep breath *
Every person on Planet Perdiah have their own quirks and stuff that they are good at.
I just… wish I found mine too.

…

* clears his throat *
Sorry for the tangent.
Just wanted to get these out of my chest.

No… worries?
* looks at the sun, it was almost becoming afternoon *
Shoot, it’s getting late.
Gotta go!
See you… later?

Peh…
* chuckles *
I suppose so, I hope you find whoever you were looking for.

Thank you kind stranger that I don’t know about!
Take care!

G’s next attempts at getting answers were just as bad as this one.

Hello little fella!
How's the weather going over there?

The tall dude then punches him in the head, causing G’s head to rotate 360 degrees.

Cut to the next encounter;

Hello madam, have you seen a fisherman looking dude?

I'm afraid not.
In fact, I'm not even sure why there is even a fisherman around here, the only source of water around here is deep within the forest.
That place really creeps me out , I have never seen anyone go there at all.
But I have heard of stories of a person living there all by himself, what a weirdo.
I bet they smell like sh-

* trying to keep a smile *
Alright miss, thanks for your comments, bye!

G continues searching until he starts to lose hope with each townsfolk. He finally sees a girl scout and asks;

Hello, little miss!
Have you seen a fisherman carrying a huge trophy passing by?

Actually, I have!
* points at her left *
He went… THAT way!

G, finally happy that he had a lead, runs towards where Emily pointed at and encounters a house at the end of the path. The house was glorious. There were so many water themed decorations all over it. (Not to mention the house itself smelled like raw fish) He looks through the window to see if this was the right place and sure enough, he sees Bushra cleaning up the trophy and putting it right alongside his collection. He seemed rather relaxed, completely unaware of his surroundings. G decides to risk it and knocks on the door.

* slowly gets up to get the door *
(tired) Ugh, I told you already!
I do not want cooki-

Bushra sees a smiling G in front of his door and slammed it shut before G could even say a sentence.

How did you find me?!

It took a lot of work but a little girl that I encountered told me your location!

* still trying to hold the door shut *
Those stupid girl scouts!
I knew that was gonna bite me in the a** eventually!

G tries to push the door harder and harder until he eventually overpowers Bushra and manages to open the door. G asks Bushra the fabled question before doing anything to him;

Why did you steal the trophy?

Buddy... I just wanted an addition to my collection of shiny things!

* looks at the collection filled with pearls and becomes frustrated *
Are you kidding me?!
Is that seriously your ONLY reason?!

* has a smug smile on his face *
What can I say?
I'm a man with priorities. Just a simple man with a love for fish.
Now if you will excuse me, I need you to get out of my house before I call the guards on you.

G gets pissed and tries to grab the trophy before him. Both rush in to get a hold of the trophy until they both accidentally break the red gem on the trophy.

Uh oh.

(angry) Look at what you have done!

(angry) Me?!
You are the one who stole that trophy without considering sharing!

* chuckles *

I only play my rules little man, I don't really care if you want this thing as well.
I did more than half of the work on the competition so I should be having it either way.

You jerk!

G rushes in to punch Bushra on the face, before Bushra body slams him unconscious. Bushra goes to grab his phone to report G. But before he could do that, a red mystic aura appears around him and G. It only lasts a few seconds before it goes away. Bushra was shocked by this but he brushes it off.

* takes a breath *
Well that was weird.
Anyhow, let's get you to the guards buddy-

Before Bushra knew it, G jumped into attack him once again. But before he could land a hit on Bushra, both get shaken by a supposed "earthquake", knocking every furniture in the house to the ground. Both looked at each other in confusion.

Uhh… what was that?

I... don't know? That felt... off.
This usually doesn't happen around here.
* suddenly realizes why he was here *
(angry) I will still get you for everything but for now, I think we need to find out whatever the heck happened just now.
* reaches out his hand *
No double crosses, got it?

* grabs his hand *
Yeah sure, whatever you say dude.
I will “totally” not double cross you.

(mildly annoyed) Alright, come along.
(worried) Oh man, I hope nothing bad happened while we were inside...

They get out of the house to see nearly all of the town being raided by a bunch of hooded gangs. The sky was red, there were houses on fire, screaming coming from everyone outside. It looked like an actual nightmare. As expected, both of them were shocked by this and decided to look for answers.

Wait...
* looks at Bushra *
Shouldn't we help out the townsfolk?
I dont think anyone here knows how to defend themselves, let alone fight them back!

* looks around *
Nah. You can go do that.
* reaches out to his backpack *
I'm just gonna grab as much of my stuff as I can before they get us.

(tired) Can you please stop being selfish for once?
There are people dying left and right.

Meh, still probably less than our kill count.
* grabs a toothpick *
Say, why don't you help me carry out the trophy?
You would be a big help with that.

Sigh, fine. Let's carry these out before they reach us.

As soon as he finished that sentence, four hooded figures surround the two in a circle format.

(worried) Uh.... Any backup plans for this occasion?

(also worried) Not really. But I sure as hell can try.
Ehem. Hello lads.
We are just two little criminals trying to take advantage of the chaos at hand.
So please, can you kindly let us leave?

Their response was pure silence until one of them started speaking.

No…
We only seek to cause misery.

(confused) Uhh.. why is that?

We really enjoy it!
* looks at the other hooded figures *
Speaking of... hey, Number 4!
How about we two go after the fisher dude?
That sounds like fun.

Hey, back off chumps!
The only one who can kick his butt is me!

He screams, proceeds to throw his fishing rod to distract them and the two make a run for it.

(confused)Where are we even going???

I don't know!

I never even left Mercia before!
I basically grew up here!
I thought you might have known a few spots since you are the weirdo that lives in the forest.

Hey, don't diss me!
At least I have manners, you know?

Okay but like, can we talk about this AFTER we get these guys off our tail?

* looks behind them *
Good point.

After running for a good while, they reach a dead end.

Oh crap.

Welp. This is it, G.
We are not getting out of this one.
Say your final prayers.

Erm… I… I-

That's good enough.
* looks at the crowd and closes his eyes *
Alright, here it comes.

Right before the hooded figures attacked the two, a boomerang cuts all of them in half. All of the members materialize into thin air, no bleeding, no nothing. Both of them look in shock as the person who threw the boomerang slowly approached the two. Before G could greet himself, the figure said;

You two are in serious trouble.

Uh... nice to meet you too?
Thanks for saving our lives by the way.
We would have been goners without you!

Don't mention it.
I was specifically called to rescue you two from this place.

(confused) What are you talking about?
And most importantly, who even are you?

Well you see... How do I put this...
* looks around *
My name is Sarpo and I have come to rescue you two.
And about your situation… it's about the trophy that you two won.
Well that really did not belong to Hood.
She just wanted to give it to someone else so that an apparent "curse" wouldn't affect her.

A CURSE?!

If you two are going to ask what I'm even talking about, I would like to clarify that no one knows what it really is.
But it's apparently linked to Hood in some way.
Mercia isn't the only place Hood sent out her "hoodsters", they are all over Perdiah.

* looks at G with a smug expression *

So ignoring the messed up situation Mr. G over here put us in, what are we suppose to do now?

I do need you two's help with taking down Hood and her hoodster army.
For that, we need to go to their base of operations...
* pulls out a map from his hat *
…located in these 7 locals.

Well, I do have two questions about this.
One, can't we just report this to the guards to do the job and two, why didn't you get rid of them with your partners before... this all happened?

They took out the region’s guards the second they came here and two... "we" couldn't have because "we" just located their bases after they went out of hiding.
* sees hoodsters running towards them *
Now, do you have any more questions because we are running out of time here!

None of them said anything and just followed Sarpo. After running for a several hours, trying to not be seen by the hoodsters, they decide to camp for the night. Sarpo prepares the tent while Bushra prepared the marshmallows. G has been chopping off wood for the fire while thinking of what he experienced today. He was lost in his thoughts until;

Yo G, is that wood ready or not?
We are freezing here!

* returns to reality *
Sorry folks, here you all go.

An awkward silence occurs after G sits down.

Um... does anyone have something to do until we go to sleep?

I can tell you all about my fishing adventures!
(in a passive aggressive tone) One time I went fishing until an annoying dude came out of nowhere that got me into this very situation!

(sarcasm) I have one too!
One day, I was having the time of my life until I came across a guy with a huge fish fetish!

(tired) Yeah screw this.
Just eat your damn marshmallows.
I swear you two are gonna drive me crazy.

All of them go to sleep once they are done with their marshmallows.
As G thought to himself before sleeping "Tomorrow is another day, I guess?"

Meanwhile in an underground bunker;

Ma’am, we have unleashed nearly all of our members to raid the main cities of Perdiah.
* looks at his list *
And also that weird town that you were bragging about.
What was up with that?

Number 423, we needed to raid that specific town to capture those two idiots that won my competition.
I'm surprised they haven't been caught by now.

Our members that raided the town said they burned down the entire Mercia forest alongside its buildings.
And no, they haven't seen the two anywhere.

Whatever, we can deal with them later.
They are not our main targets, I just wanted to get rid of them while we had the chance.
* stands up *
Either way, continue organizing the troops.
I'm tired of all this drama.

Of course ma’am, right away!

Hood thought to herself "Man, that guy is annoying, remind me to replace him with Number 424…"

CHAPTER 3: WORK IT OUT!

It has been a stressful week for the folks of Perdiah. After what happened between G and Bushra, the whole world had turned into chaos. No one was given mercy by Hood's minions. Mercia as we know it has also been turned into a wasteland with little to no survivors... G wakes up from his dream and it was unsurprisingly much more peaceful than what was going on in real life. He saw Sarpo still sleeping but there was no sign of Bushra anywhere. He went to look for him and unsurprisingly;

(tired) Bushra, what are you doing?

Oh, nothing.
I was just fishing as always. Look what I caught!
* shows him a bucket filled with all types of fish *

(sigh) Fine, whatever man.
I hope you won't make us eat fish for yet another night.
We really need to eat something else too, you know?

* stares at him judgmentally *
Look who's talking!
Go get a shower first, G!
Sheesh, can't a man fish in peace?

* whispers *
At least my life isn't based around one thing.

What did you just say?

(worried) Oh, nothing!
Now please pack your stuff up.
Sarpo will most likely wake up soon and we will go to destroy one of the hoodsters' bases.

Alright then, G.
First I need to find something to put these fish into...

* smirks *
Put them in your mouth.

Oh, shut up!
* throws the bucket towards G *

While G was looking at his now wet clothes, Sarpo wakes up from all their bickering.

Sigh. Why is G like that, Bushra?

* tries to hide the bucket *
I have no idea what you are talking about buddy.
He definitely arrived here like that.
Maybe you didn't see it through those big glasses of yours?
* giggles *

(tired) Welp, I guess we need to go shopping first before the hoodsters catch up.
Bushra, please help G out if you don't want me to leave you here.

Okay, okay, sheesh.

* looks at G *
What do you think about this, G?

I despise you so much.

Flash forward to them inside a boutique;

While you guys do your thing, I'm going to the fishing store that I saw on the way here.
Catch you losers later!

Wow, how convenient.
* looks at G *
Ehem, alright G. What do you want to buy?
I can lend you some cash if you want.

No worries dude.
* pulls out his wallet *
When I used to live in the woods, I managed to get a deal with a woodsman.
We mostly traded pure wood for cash so I have plentiful already!

I see.
So what do you want?

Hm...
* sees a green jacket *
I really like this one! Especially the colors!

Good pick.

You continue looking looking while I make sure Bushra doesn't get into any trouble.
Be right back, G.
* leaves the store after saying "good luck" to the cashier *

Hm...
* proceeds to buy fingerless gloves, a bowtie, new shoes and a bracelet *
Hm... I'm not sure what else to buy… Perhaps...
* sees a headphone lying around *
(confused) That's odd, isn't this a boutique?
Why is this here?
Hm...

He then decides to wear the headphones. He gets a weird sense of deja vu, he felt like he repeated this exact same action before... on another world or maybe on another timeline even. He decides to not question it and goes to the cashier to purchase the stuff he bought.

Meanwhile on the opposite side of the city;

Sir, you are not supposed to stand on it.

But the sign says "Where do you stand on the fishing rod?"
You think I can't read or something?!

Sir, please calm down for a second!

Sarpo sees what was happening and hits Bushra on the head.

OW! HEY!

Sorry for his misbehavior, sir! My associate here has no idea what he is talking about.
* pulls out money from his wallet *
Please accept this cash as our apology.

As soon as they got out of the shop, Sarpo started arguing with Bushra.

Dude, what were you even doing there?!
I thought you were gonna look at fish or something!

Hey! That man ticked me off with his stupid sign.
I rightfully did what it said before he screamed at me!

Man, you really are an introvert.
* smokes a cigar *
We need to do something about that when this is all over with...

Speaking of, where's G?
He probably picked out the worst outfits possible, that man has a terrible sense in fashion.

You literally knew him for two days.

Hey, I can make assumptions!
Have you seen his outfit when you rescued us?

Before Sarpo could respond back, G gets out of the boutique. Sarpo gives him a thumbs up while Bushra was unimpressed.

So…. how do I look, guys?

Honestly a five out of ten at most.
At least it’s an improvement.

(annoyed) Of course Bushra, of course.

What about the headphones though?
How did you find them in a boutique of all places?

I... don't know.
I wanted to get them and I don't even know why…

That's odd, maybe it's a side effect of the curse.
Anyway boys, now that we are done here...
Let's go destroy their first base!

HECK YEAH!

Wait.
Where is it again?

Oh you know, just at the top of Mount Worth!

Wait, wait.

So are we gonna climb up a whole mountain?

Precisely!
Now get moving guys, we do not have much time until they catch up to us!

The group starts climbing the Mountain of Worth. It was surprisingly easy at first. Nothing was out of ordinary (aside from Bushra's occasional whining) Except for one moment.

While G was climbing, the rock he was grabbing onto suddenly splitted from the mountain. As G was falling to his demise, he felt a sharp object tearing a shred on his trousers. He looked up to see a friendly face helping him.

Oops, that was close.
* smirks *
How's the weather over there, G?

Bu- but... you... saved me?
(confused) But how is that fishing rod strong enough to carry me?!

Shush, little man. I'm trying to pull you over!
Please calm down.
I heard that once the fish act up, it becomes harder to catch and pull them towards you!

(annoyed) Wow, so exciting.
Is it fun to test that out in real time?

* giggles *
Oh absolutely!

A few minutes pass;

Alright buddy, you are okay now.

Thanks, but where's Sarpo?

Over here.

* looks at Sarpo *
Uhm... why didn't you help Bushra out when I almost fell to my death?!

I wanted to see what you two were capable of.
I would have saved you if Bushra failed anyway.
* stands up *
Now, let's go boys!
We still have a mountain to climb!

The three continue climbing for three hours until they see a metallic base in front of them.

Alright boys, we have officially reached the end.
How are we doing down there?

Pretty good but I'm a bit tired. How are you hanging down there Bushra?
* chuckles *
Still cursing behind our backs for bringing you here?

(tired) Shut up G, I'm not in the mood for that right now.
I want to take a break so badly...

I would have said ‘yes’ to a nice break... IF we didn't have a swarm of hoodsters behind our back.

Question, how do you know they are close to us?

Ehem, please turn around.

As G turns back, he sees the city they just invaded in shambles just like Town Mercia.

You know you could have warned everyone living there if you knew this was going to happen!

Fair point... but I didn't want anyone to sell us out if I did so.
* sighs *
Too risky.

He is right, I never trusted that cashier dude.
Something about him was just off.

...alright then, if you say so.

Hold it!
You guys hear that?

I don’t hear anything…

Listen closer!

As the two follow the sounds, they hear footsteps of multiple people passing by, most likely hoodsters.

* whispers in panic *
How did they find us this quickly?!

* whispers back *
I don't know but we need to hide somewhere first!

As three hide behind a moderate sized rock, they see fifty hoodsters passing by. Sarpo was still thinking of what to do about the situation at hand.

I heard the sounds of running from here.

I think they might be here, they couldn't have outrun us by now.
Number 426, smell their aura.
We need to know which direction they went to.

As Member #426 starts to smell the ground, both G and Bushra were disgusted by it.

So what are we gonna do?
They can apparently smell, ‘ugh’, our so called "red aura" from anywhere.
We cannot run away from here either!

Is it too late to ask what they want from us again?

Calm down, you two.
Don't underestimate a member of M.P.C!

The what now?

"Magic Protector Camp"

After hearing that voice, the three realized that they were surrounded once more.

Do not be scared, we will not hurt you.
We want you two to be in one piece so that our ancient master can feast!

Not on my watch bucko!
* pulls out a fan *
Quick you two! Get behind me!

Sarpo started the fan as half of the hoodsters fell down from the mountain. The remaining ones weren't so happy however.

Alright you two, do a free style!
I will protect the right side while you two fend off the left side!

Got it!
Bushra, let's do this!

Alright G, but promise me to not talk like that again.

…fine.

The two try to fight off the left lane until G realizes one critical problem. The two could not fight against the fifty hoodsters in front of them. Bushra wasn't as scared however as he prepared his fishing rod to attack the whole army. As one hoodster ran towards G, he started hitting him with everything that he got. After that, G was in shock. He didn't think he knew how to fight before but it all felt like second nature to him. He decided to not question it and started fighting the hoodsters. Bushra was holding himself just fine as well. His fishing rod was surprisingly good against the hoodsters as they were distracted by it (for some reason) After 5 minutes of battling, almost every hoodster poofed out of existence.

Ayy, nice job you two!
High five!

HECK YEAH!

Not so fast, little pumpkins!

Before Sarpo could throw his boomerang towards Hood, he was knocked out by one of the remaining hoodsters from the back. Both G and Bushra were in shock by this as they looked at Hood in all of her glory.

You pumpkins missed me? I sure did.
I'm SO glad you saved me the trouble by destroying the gem!
Amazing job!
Now if you will excuse me, I need you two to come with me so that your process can be… less painful.

Over our dead bodies!

Hoodsters, take them away and if they resist... kill their unconscious friend!

(Maybe I can attack Hood before they even touch us! Surely my reflexes can help us!)

They did not. As G fell to the ground with a huge bump on the back side of his head, Bushra came up with a brilliant plan.

Alright fellas, let's be rational about this.
Say Hood, how about you let us go?
Sure, you wouldn't gain anything but it would be less embarrassing than what's about to happen to you.

I'm gonna have to give that a big ‘no’, pumpkin.
Hoodsters! Get him!

Before they could catch Bushra, he pulls out his trustworthy fishing rod and throws it somewhere far away. Hood giggles at first but then sees all of her hoodsters following the rod like rab lats. And before she could shout at them, Bushra reaches out to Sarpo’s pockets and uses the fan. Every single hoodster fell down from the mountain as Hood watched as her dreams crushed in front of her eyes. Bushra looked back at her with a smug expression.

What were you about to say, Hood?

Hood tries to escape before Bushra catches her with his fishing rod. With no way to escape, Hood decides to stay silent.

I want answers, buddy.
First, why do you want to capture us so badly?!

I don't need to say it, pumpkin.

Say it.

Nope.

Alright buddy, you want to die? I will be sure to help-

Before Bushra finished his sentence, Hood zaps him with a red ring on her index finger. Bushra gets knocked down in the process.

Well pumpkin, you are done for.
* realizes something *
Speaking of which... Let me just get rid of that pesky MPC member first!

She went to the spot where Sarpo was knocked out but she was shocked to find out he wasn't there. She ignores it to call her hoodsters to carry G and Bushra to their base until she gets hit by a boomerang.

Sarpo was hiding behind another rock after he woke up. He expected Hood to also disappear into thin air but was surprised that she was still alive, bleeding to death.

Oh. So you still DO have yours, huh?
Hood still insisted on not answering any questions and before Sarpo could even process what was happening, Hood jumped off the

mountain. Sarpo looked down to see where she landed, only to see a balloon carrying her to safety.

Should we capture them, ma’am?

No...
* coughs up blood *
Forget about them.
Bring me health supplies IMMEDIATELY!

...alright ma’am.

As the balloon flew away, Sarpo was left with so many questions. He saw Bushra and G’s unconscious bodies and decided to carry them to a safer place, a place they could relax for a while. He found a nice camping place for the three of them. He wanted to prepare them dinner until he realized he was also very sleepy. It was a relaxing night, filled with stars and owls howling.

As 3AM rolled around, a circus caravan happened to have stumbled upon the three. The "animals" inside the caravan carried them inside to heal their wounds. After several hours, G woke up with a huge headache. He thought he was dreaming when he saw an anthro cat sitting in front of him.

Ugh…

Good morning!

Huh?! Who... who are you?

My name is Ms. Meow and I welcome you to Circus Kruze!

CHAPTER 4: CIRCUS (RESCRIBBLED MIX)

It was a surprisingly peaceful morning on Perdiah. Even after their battle, the three were still on the move. Their mission was unfortunately interrupted by a circus caravan. Did the caravan save the three for the kindness of their heart or... for something else?

Um… hi?

Is there something wrong?

I mean... where do I even begin?!
* points at her *
First of all, who are you and where are you taking us?!
We three were supposed to be on a mission to destroy Hood's bases!

Don't worry man, she is on our side.

* smiles *
Yep.

G looks at Sarpo with a shocked expression, he didn't realize Sarpo was already awake.

Huh?! Since when was that established?!

Since our training together in MPC actually.

Me and her worked together for a few years hunting down Hood's army until we eventually...
* the expression on his face changes slightly *
had to split up...

Huh. That's all fine and all but uhm...

(annoyed) Are you going to ask me why I am a humanoid looking cat?

Well... uhm... kinda?

(tired) Don't waste your breath. I can tell you exactly why.

Oh boy.

Well... we are all part of a clan called "The Travelers"
We used to live freely on Perdiah until a new race called "humans" tried to get us out of our land.
A huge battle transpired between the two groups until both retreated.
Fast forward to now, humans created their own towns while us ,Travelers, now live in the forest with our own sub communities.
But most of us decided to open a circus caravan to entertain rather than hate on the "humans"
And most importantly...
* looks at Sarpo *
I learned to show kindness to everyone after I joined MPC.
Sarpo was an amazing companion back then… fast forward to now and I'm the show runner of this baby right there!

Woah... that's... wow.

So did you get all of that?

It's kind of hard to process all of it at once, you know? I did not know the backstory of Perdiah ran that deep...

* looks at Sarpo with angry expression *
See?! This is why I NEVER explain this to most people!

Hold on a second...
* looks around him *
Where's Bushra?

Oh, that fish obsessed guy?
Yeah, he is over there trying to fit himself in with the rest of my clan.
He said he was going to look for something.
Not sure what he was talking about but he was in good spirit.

Huh. Good on him, I guess.
Say, where are we going exactl-

She will lead us to their next bases while we pretend to be one of the Travelers.
That's the gist of it.

Huh, alright then...

G looks around inside the caravan. He could not believe what he was seeing. There were so many different kinds of "Travelers". Some of them were as big as an elephant while some of them were as small as a bunny. He decides to sit down and talk to some of them while Ms. Meow and Sarpo stayed behind.

I'm really glad you rescued us back there, Cloe.
We barely got out of that fight alive.
I will be sure to repay you when I get the chance…

It's all good, Sarpo. Glad to help you out with your cause.
Your friends seem to be enjoying this place as well, especially that fisherman... almost a bit too much I would say.

Yeahhhh, I need to check up on him.
Be right back in a minute.

Sarpo started looking for Bushra and saw him talking to a bunch of elephant Travelers;

So one day I was going to a store, right?

Both of the Travelers shook their head.

And then I saw a weird looking dude while returning home.
He tried to walk towards me and then I said "Screw off you dum dum, there's fish for only one lad and that lad is ME!"

Bushra starts laughing like a lunatic while the Travelers looked at him all confused.

Sorry for the inconvenience folks, we will be going now.
Take care of yourselves!

(disappointed) Come on man, this is the second time you have done this to me!
I was just telling them a funny joke…

I don't think they found it particulary "funny"

Well... you don't know that!
You know what, screw this!
* tries to open the door *
I'm done with this!

Where do you think you are going?

(frustrated) To the other side of the caravan, idiot!

Don't talk to me like that!
But... I have to admit that you are right.

You bet!
* looks around *
I want to do something instead!

Well... how about you hang out with G until we reach our destination?

Ehhh... sure.

Great to hear it, I will let G know.

G approaches Sarpo before he could leave the room.

I heard my name, Sarpo.
Is something up?

* whispers *
Can you spend some time with Bushra?
He is gonna make the entirety of the caravan hate us.

Fine, not like I have much to lose here.
Most of them look at us all weird like we did something to them.
I am still not sure where these animal people came from either.

Well you heard Cloe-
I- I mean Ms. Meow!
The two sides have a rocky history.
Just try not to get on their bad side, alright?

Sigh, fine.

G enters the room and sees Bushra having the time of his life.

Hey Bushra, are you doing alright?

Doing pretty good, G.
Just watching a documentary right now.

Ooh... what's it about?

G sits right next to Bushra.

It's about the tuna fish.
Did you know that these bad boys can swim for such a long distance?
It's actually quite fascinating to watch.
* points at the screen *
Look at them go!

You know… I'm actually quite interested in these.
Can you explain this fish in more detail?

(excited) Of course G! First-

* enters the room *
We are here, you two!
Get up and help the clan prepare the stage!

Wait, then when does the "destroy enemy base" part come in?

Once we are done with our performance.
With that said... HURRY UP!
* closes the door with a loud thud *

Sheesh, she has a low temper.
Doesn't she, Bushra?

Oh, I haven't been listening to any of that actually.
I was just watching the baby tuna trying to reach their parent.

Sigh, just come with me.
Ms. Meow will kill us if we don't leave here soon.

Alright G, you win... for now.

* smiles *
That's all I needed to hear.

Both step outside and see a wonderful stage being prepared for the show. Every Traveler inside the caravan was handling something important. Even Sarpo was helping them out with their tasks. Ms. Meow still had that annoyed expression on her face but G tried to ignore it while Bushra just didn't care.

* sees the two outside *
There you are, now get to work!

(sarcasm) Yippee…
How exciting!

* still not listening *
Whatever he said, yeah.

The two head to work. Their duty was preparing the fireworks for the big finale. Ms. Meow tells them to go to a nearby shop to buy some fireworks.

* waiting for their turn *
Uhh... wouldn't this grab the hoodsters' attention?
Firing these doesn't seem like the smartest idea.

Just do what she says, G.
I'm already sick of that cat and her stupid commands.
The sooner we destroy the base, the sooner we can get out of here.

Gentlemen?
What are you talking about?

Oh, sorry sir!
Please accept this cash.
* gives him the money *
Let's go Bushra, we have a base to destroy today!

Uhh…

Wait a minute, I want to buy something for myself too.
* looks at G's bracelet and points at it *
I want to get one of these as well, my lad.

Su-sure.
I will see if I have anything similar to that in stock.

(confused) Huh, I did not expect that of you, Bushra.

* raises his hand *
Oh and also make it blue with fish symbols on it!

* chuckles *
Now that's the Bushra I know.

The two purchase the fireworks and the bracelet. Now they were off to meet up with the rest of the Travelers. They saw a big crowd of humans patiently waiting for the show to start. Sarpo sees the two and calls them to the back stage.

I almost thought you two got lost in the city!
Why were you late?

* smiling *
For no reason.
Now step aside people because THIS fisherman is going back to watching fish documentaries!

Yeah, I will probably stick with him if this becomes really boring.

(tired) Whatever.
I will just watch the show by the sidelines then.

The announcer, aka Ms. Meow, announced that the show was starting. Both Sarpo and G watch the Travelers perform on the stage until Sarpo sees a hooded figure in the crowd and starts panicking. G becomes confused and also look at the direction Sarpo was looking

at. He also starts freaking out and goes to warn Bushra about it. Sarpo runs towards Ms. Meow to talk with her.

Cloe, we need to go NOW!

(confused) But we are only just starting, Sarpo!
Can't we wait for a bit longer?

No, you don't understand!
The hoodsters found us!
They will most likely start killing the people in the crowd and soon, your clan as well!

Sarpo looks back and sees G running towards them with Bushra by his side.

We are too late, we need to go!

The four of them start running towards caravan to get out of the area. The Travelers start following them from behind after realizing the mass murder happening in the crowd.

* sits on the drivers seat *
Alright boys, hold onto something because we are going EXTRA fast!

But we won't be able to destroy the base!

We can destroy it AFTER we get these guys off our tail!

* giggles *
Heh, I get it! Tail!

Now is not the time Bushra!

* ignores the two *
But they won't allow us to get on these grounds again, Cloe!
Can you be smart for just once!?

While the two were arguing, Bushra was thinking of something.

Wait Sarpo, we can still blow it up!

What are you even talking about?!

The kitty cat told us to get fireworks for the show earlier.
Maybe we can launch them to do some serious damage!

I don't think they can do much damage to a whole building, Bushra.

* points at the nearby canons *
Maybe we can use the canons here to give them more fire power?

It seems like this is the only solution all of us can semi agree on so...
Alright you two!... What should I even call you guys?

Before G could say anything Bushra steps in.

Call us Team Bushra, rolls off the tongue.

Alright cool, now get to it!

Team Bushra runs off to set the fireworks up. After a bunch of arguing and working together, they manage to fully set it up. They wait for Sarpo's command.

* looks outside *
Almost... ALRIGHT YOU TWO, NOW!

They launch the powered up fireworks to the base which results in a gorgeous explosion. The four of them look at the explosion in amazement until they get out of its sight.

We did it!
Great work, you two!

Wow, I'm impressed as well.
Great job, Team Bushra!

We did it thanks to MY great thinking!

Please do not count me out Bushra, you were gonna make the whole caravan explode if I didn't fix it at the last second.

(annoyed) Shut up, G.

After driving away from the place for three hours, they park near a mountain to take a break.

Yeah. I think we should do this job solo style, Cloe.
We almost got your whole clan killed out there.

No it... was my fault.
I forgot how fast those guys were in our training years.
* smiles and points at her Travelers *
Luckily nearly all of us made out of it alive...
I would like to repay you.

By how exactly?

We will split up into two groups.
You and Team Bushra can destroy the bases on this side of Perdiah while my clan can take out the rest of them over this side without getting caught.

That's a great idea but how will you guys stay safe?
They saw your caravan already.

We will rebrand our caravan just in case they find out.
That's what I'm hoping for at the very least.

Well... thank you Cloe.
We appreciate that a lot.

No problem Sarpo, just call me if you guys are in trouble.

Gotcha, see you later Cloe!

See you, Sarpo!
* looks at the two standing next to him *
See you as well, Team Bushra!
You guys were pretty cool.

The three watch as Ms. Meow's caravan goes away.

We really need to change our team name.

No, that should stay.
What I am wondering is why they just don't call themselves furries.
Like come on… look at them!
"Travelers" sounds so bland honestly, like who came up with that?

No, that's a different thing Bushra.

Literally how?!

Sigh.
Man, this is gonna be hard to explain.

CHAPTER 5: MAZE TROUBLES

It was quite an interesting day on Perdiah. After the attack on Town Mercia, everyone thought that there were no survivors left besides Team Bushra… or so they thought.

* coughs *
Ugh… what happened?

Artender opened his eyes and found himself lying down on top of the remains of the town he once called home. It all felt like a distant memory for him. He first heard sounds of gunshots and the horrified screams of the crowd. He remembered running as fast he could from the evil hooded figures and then tripping somewhere, losing his consciousness in the process. And now, he was here. Thankfully safe and sounds. He tried to stand up and started looking around the desolate land. He hoped that there would be at least a few survivors in the area. But to his knowledge, there was no sign of any other survivors. But he didn't give up.

HELLO?! IS ANYONE THERE?!
HELLO?!

But before he continued even further, he saw something in the distance. Or rather, actual people. The same hooded people that burned the entire town to ashes… He decided to hide behind a tree and listen to their conversation.

Did you all hear that?

N-no…

Hm… Alright then…
Number 71, did you find anyone?

No, ma’am.
We searched every single building out there but found no living thing in sight.

Aw…

Ssh… don’t worry, Number 416!
We will still look for them somewhere!

YAY!

(What in the world…)

Anyways, ehem.
Number 71, take Number 416 to the nearest base!
I will report our statues while you guys are on your way.

Okay ma’am.

Goodbye, miss Number 3!

* watches the two as they left the area *
Phew.
* dials a number on her phone and waits *
Hon, you there?

Yep, I am here!

Alright.
I know you left a few hours ago with your group but can you please let Hood know that there is no one alive here?
Sorry by the way…

No, no. It's all good, honey.
One question though, why don't you call her instead?

I… um… how do I put this…

Hm?

I forgot to write down her phone number…

Huh, okay then.
Well, I am arriving there in about five minutes so sure.
Talk to you later, honey!

You too, hon.

Artender watched as the supposed "Member #3" left the area.

(How strange. At least, I am safe now.)

Then his thoughts were interrupted because of his stomach ache. He just realized he has been unconscious for days. He tries to look for food supplies but to no result. He decides to find food supplies (and also an actual house) for the time being. He walked for half an hour until he saw a strange building in front of him. It was a mostly undamaged wooden house with no decorations. It also smelled

terrible. But then he saw something so amazing that it made all of his thoughts disappear into thin air.

Actual food.

He was so surprised to see fresh food just sitting there in the house's fridge. He grabs it instantly and eats it. While eating and looking around the place, he thought to himself;

Maybe I can salvage this place for myself…

Meanwhile, in Hood's office;

Hm… I wonder what's on TV today…
Let's see here…
* grabs the TV remote *
Hm… The Five of Us is not really my cup of tea…
Oh, oh! This is interesting.
Mandy & Friends, huh?
Let's give this one a shot-

MA'AM, MA'AM!

HOW DARE YOU ENTER MY OFFICE WITHOUT KNOCKING ON THE DOOR?!

So- sorry, boss!
I- I didn't intend to barge in like that!

Whatever!
Tell me why you are here!

Of course!
Number 3 said that Number 416 found where Team Bushra was!

Hm... impressive.
She is an interesting little thing.

She sure seems that way...

Anything else?

Oh and also there were no survivors left in Town Mercia.
Well aside from… you know.

It’s fine, pumpkin.
We got much value as we could have gotten from that stupid town anyways.
Now onto other manners, where exactly is Team Bushra?

They are in Cave Inertia.

I don’t know that place.

The cave on the other side of The Mountain That Never Endss?
Does that ring a bell?

* smiles *
Oh, now I remember!
* gets up *

We will go there together!
Assemble the hoodsters immediately!

On it!

AND DON’T FORGET TO BRING MY MECH ARMOR!

Meanwhile inside Cave Inertia;

Gosh darn it, G!
I told you coming here was a bad idea!

I thought it looked cool!
It wasn't even my idea to go deeper!
Sarpo had the "brilliant" idea to go deeper into the cave for some reason!

Fellas, it's my fault.
I thought this shortcut would help us in the long run and now we are stuck.
Please keep your calm, I will get us out of here.

B-but I have... claustrophobia!
I cannot stay here any longer without passing out!

I don't know what you are talking about G but I agree!

Okay G, take deep breaths.
We will get out of here soon.

Yeah, G!
Just relax a bit!

O-okay?

The three continue walking until they encounter a strangely out of place ancient wall of text. All of them were confused by this and decided to investigate.

Well, this is a pleasant surprise.
I wonder what it says here.
Hm...
* pulls out a translator device from his backpack *
This should do.

Where do you find this stuff?
And most importantly, can I have them?

Shut up Bushra.

Joykill.
Hm…
Can I touch the funny looking text?
It’s so… SHINY!

Nuh uh.
* hits Bushra’s hand *
Don’t touch that.

Man, you are lame.

I’m just running tests on this thing, Bushra.
I’m worried for your safety.
If you are THIS bored, how about you run to the exit with G?

Ooh! Good idea!
What do you say, G?
Want to make a run for it?

I need to breathe, I need to breathe, I need to breathe, I need to breathe-

Okay, noted.
* pulls out his notebook and starts writing "I need to breathe" in it *

Aha! I got it!

What does it say, Sarpo?

Wait, hold on.
My translator is processing the text.
It looks like this is going to take a while.
You two can go ahead like I said, Bushra.
I will be sure to catch up with you.

You heard the man, G!

Want to go on a classic Team Bushra adventure?

So cold so cold so cold so cold-

I feel the exact same way, buddy.
* picks up G and starts carrying him on his back *
Now, let's juice!

ALSO DON'T WORRY IF YOU GET LOST, I WILL COME AND GET YOU TWO!
* no response *
Hmph, should have seen that coming.
Alright, let's see here-

Sarpo quickly dodges a sword attack and punches a hoodster on the face, causing them to poof out of existence.

I should have known you would find us…

You know me too well, pumpkin!
But I have a surprise prepared JUST for you!

Sorry Hood but I have folks to lead!
See you in about… oh, I dunno… a year?

Oh no, you don't!
Hoodsters, get him!

(Ugh, they are going to follow the two once they are done with me. I need to think of something…)

AHA!
* pretends to shoot his boomerang at Hood *
Hey Hood! Catch!

Hood ducks expecting the boomerang to hit her but instead Sarpo threw his boomerang towards the path Team Bushra took. It causes the walls to break, slowly covering the path.

YOU LITTLE-
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, RUN TOWARDS THE PATH!

Twenty or so hoodsters managed to follow the path until its entrance was fully blocked off. Hood looked at Sarpo in frustration.

Did you like my little trick?
It's called "How to tick off a dummie", created just for you!

* starts laughing much to Sarpo's surprise *
Oh, you silly little pumpkin.
Did you think I came here unprepared?
* presses a button on the remote she was holding and a giant mech appears out of thin air *
Does THIS bring back memories?!
HAHAHAHAHA!

Oh great… JUST great…

Meanwhile, Team Bushra was… not doing so hot;

Ugh… where are we, mom?

We are getting the heck outta here, G!

Aren’t you excited too?

Yes mom, sorry mom…

Hm… I wonder where Sarpo is.
It shouldn’t have taken THIS long…
Screw it.
YO SARPO! WHERE ARE YOU, BUDDY?!

I HEARD SOMEONE TALKING!
AFTER THEM!

Oh crud.
Come on, G!
We need to go!

HAH!
I love hide and seek!!!!
PEEKABOO, HAH!

Sorry G but we don’t have much time!
* grabs G’s hand and starts running alongside him *
We will look for Sarpo after we get rid of these guys!

Of course Mr. Jordan!

Sigh.

* notices something from a distance *
Hey look, fish person!
I see a grey door, maybe we can use it to get out of here!

G, I swear to-
* also notices it *
Wait, you weren't joking?!

* points at himself *
This guy right here never misses!
Am I right, lads?

Sigh.
Hold on tight, G!
This might be our worst decision yet!

Heh, can't wait!

As the hoodsters' footsteps became louder and louder, Bushra knew that this was their only choice. He opened the door and then went inside the room with G…

How long have you been repairing that thing?
Weeks, months, YEARS?
Pick one or leave it at this point!

HNGH!
HOLD STILL!
YOU ARE MAKING MY AIM LOOK TERRIBLE!

As if it wasn't terrible already!
* punches the hoodsters chasing after him *
Face it Hood, you are NEVER going to beat me!
MPC has protected so many people from your reign and it will continue to do so until the end of tim-

NOW!

In the blink of an eye, the hoodsters surround Sarpo leaving him with no space to run away. He didn't know what to do in this situation but he had an idea.

(nervous) Hey Hood!
Want to do a 1v1 fight, like the good old days?

* smirks *
You know Sarpo, it's oddly tempting, but…
* pulls out a package from insider her pocket *
…no, thank you.
* opens a package and blows over powder to Sarpo's face *
Think happy thoughts, Sarpo.
You will need them!

What are you-
* the powder causes him to sleep on the spot *

HAH!
* looks at her army *
Hoodsters, tie him up!

Ma'am, what are you doing?!
Why aren't you killing him?!

Wasn't he one of your biggest enemies?!

Oh, you aren't thinking the bigger picture here.
Let's say your group didn't capture Team Bushra, then what?
We would be stuck with nothing to bargain on.

You don't mean-

Oh, I mean it!
* points at Sarpo's unconscious body *
Handcuff him and bring him to our main base, Number 2.
I know EXACTLY what I am doing!

Hm… okay then…

* notices the ancient text on the wall *
Huh.
I wonder why Sarpo was trying to translate this thing so badly…
* looks back to his hoodsters *
Nevermind him!
Help me separate this text from the wall!

Hood, in excitement, touched the glowing text and suddenly…

ARGH!
* holds her head and starts puking *
W- WHAT WAS THAT?!
WH- WHAT WERE THOSE VISIONS?!

Ma'am, are you okay?

F-Forget the text!
* holds her head *
Just carry Sarpo back to the main base!

Uhm… okay?
ALRIGHT EVERYONE, MOVE OUT!
WE ARE DONE HERE!

…
What in the world was that…

“It looked like visions… from a different life!”

Ugh…
* looks around and sees Bushra standing in the middle of a white colored cube shaped room *
Hey Bushra, where are we?!

Oh, hey!
You are back to normal!

Back to… normal?

It’s… complicated, I will explain it later.
But yeah, I’m trying to figure out just where the heck we are.

Hm… I don’t have the slightest clue.
How about you?

Buddy, I don’t know!
You are supposed to be the brains of the group!

Hey! I never applied for that position, okay?

Yeah, yeah, whatever you say.
So what’s our next move?

* hears footsteps coming from somewhere *
Maybe get out of here by using the other door?

What a stroke of genius!
Geez, it’s almost like I DIDN’T TRY IT BEFOREHAND!
IT’S LOCKED!

Geez, no need to be THAT harsh…

Save it for later, G.
We have company!

FREEZE!
WE CAN EITHER DO THIS THE EASY OR THE HARD WAY!

You know what they say, G.
You can’t get anywhere without taking a few risks.

WHY YOU LITTLE! OPEN FIRE!

What are you doing?!

* whispers *
We will split up when I say “GO!”, okay?

O-okay!

Any minute now…
GO!

The two of them split up and the hoodsters accidentally shoot towards the door, causing the lock to break.

Now’s our chance!
Let’s go, G!

Right behind you, dude!

Bushra enters the room only to be greeted by… a grassy plain?

This… doesn’t feel right.

You bet, it doesn’t!
All of this looks… artificial. Maybe we are still not outside!

I could guess that, G.
* sees the hoodsters entering the room *
But nevermind that, let's move on to the next room!

Okay!

Then they passed through a red colored room with trees made out cubes, then they passed through an island with a pirate ship next to it and then they pass through a room with something that G remembered from all those years ago…

Woah, is that Temple Tutsu?!

The what now?
* dodges a laser coming towards him *
Gosh dang it, G!
We don't have time!
You can reminisce about your temple thing after we get out of here!

…fine.

After leaving the temple and entering the next room, they were greeted with a room filled to the brim with crystals.

Woah… these are just so… SHINY!

Woah, you are right!
They look so awesome!
* turns back *
Oh right, evil hooded people chasing us.

ENOUGH RUNNING!
YOU HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO, MY MEN ARE GUARDING THE NEXT DOOR!
SURRENDER NOW!

Welp, G.
It looks like this is the end for us…
Say your prayers.

Wait… ARE YOU SERIOUS!?

I mean do YOU have any other plans?!

I don’t-
* accidentally bumps into one of the crystals *
OW!

G looks at the crystal as it was turning into a bright red color. After that, it explodes and leaves a gap on the floor.

Well, now I do!
Quick, touch the crystals!

Don’t you idiots stand there!
MAKE CONTACT WITH THE CRYSTALS BEFORE THEM!

Member #45 quickly found out that even though his hoodsters were touching the crystals, they didn’t cause the same affect as Team Bushra.

OH, COME ON!
STOP THEM!

Care to do the honors, Bushra?

Oh, I would love to.
Touch them when I say “Nuggets”

Okay?

NUGGETS!

Both of them touched the giant crystal in the middle of the room. It was a giant explosion. Team Bushra managed to hide somewhere unharmed while the hoodsters in the room weren’t as lucky. All of them died and then poofed out of existence.

After the explosion stopped, G looked at what remained of the room only to see a giant opening on the wall. It was snowing outside.

Huh, I guess that’s our ticket out of here.

You said it.

Wait… SARPO IS STILL WITH THEM!
WE NEED TO-

Look G, we need to go NOW.
It's been a very tiring day.
We will try to get him back… eventually.

…
If you say so.
I just hope he is alright…

Meanwhile at the entrance to Cave Inertia, Member #2 sees Hood sitting while watching the mountain's view.

Ma-ma'am?
Are you alright?

Yeah, I am fine pumpkin.

Did that text do something bad to you?

* looks at Member #2 in the eyes *
It was… nothing, really.
It was just a cruel reminder of a… dark time in my life.

Oh.

Yeah.
* coughs *
Enough rambling, Number 2.
Did your men carry Sarpo to the base?

They sure did, ma’am.

Excellent.

Hood prepared to leave but then turned her back to see Hoodster #2’s nonexistent face.

And Number 2… you are way too soft for your own good.
Get a grip on life or you will face horrible consequences!

...
Not even a thanks, huh?

Don’t forget who you are talking to, Number 2!
* chuckles *
Your life belongs to our one and only savior, remember?
Never forget that!

* sighs *
Of course, ma’am.

Now.
* stands up *
Follow me, Number 2!
We are going to have SO MUCH fun with Sarpo!

CHAPTER 6: INSIDE THE BASES

It was yet another exciting day on Perdiah. People have been running away in fear, the hoodsters were taking over more lands as the days passed. All of the hoodsters were loyal to their leader, Hood. Well... all except one...

An excited hoodster was trying to wake up their roommate;

Hey, wake up Number 3!
Wake up! We are going to be late!

Ugh... Just give me 5 more minutes, okay?!

Sorry honey... I was just… warning you!
You know what happens when Hood gets angry…

I know I know...
* gets up from her bed and yawns *
Okay, Number 2. I'm up now.
Let's get ready for the show, eh?

Of course Number 3!
I will go first, be sure to catch up once you are all dressed up.
*kisses her on the cheek *
See ya!

Thanks honey.
* yawns *

Man, I haven't slept this good in a while.

She goes to dress up. She opens her side of the wardrobe and sees her light blue hoodie. She remembers the time where she wasn't a part of the whole hoodster operation. She shrugs it off and starts to tidy up her hair. She looks at the standard hoodster outfit, very well knowing that she is just a replaceable soldier. She wears it and goes outside to meet up with her partner in crime. Even though the weather was nice, she knew that she wouldn't be able to enjoy it anyways. She sees Member #2 and walk towards them.

Hey, Number 3!
I love your ponytail!

Thank you honey but what is the meeting about today?

Oh, just the usual stuff.
Hood said that they were going to split us into teams to guard the remaining bases.
Apparently a Traveler clan is going around and destroying some of our bases.
We got the reports that they got rid of two of them in the span of a week!

Woah...
* coughs *
That's terrible!
So does this mean we only have...
* counts with her fingers *
Three bases left?

Yeah sadly.
We are really struggling a lot here.

Are there any plans on rebuilding the destroyed ones?

Hood says that we shouldn't do that right now.
Apparently she wants us to focus on invading more of Perdiah first.

That's... odd.
What about the two boys who made contact with the gem… you know?

Oh right, you are talking about THEM...
Hood said that they would be on their way here so I don’t think we need to worry for now.

(confused) ...really?

(frustrated) Wow you really weren't keeping up with the recent developments, were you?

Sorry, I was just...

* blushes in embarrassment *
Sorry honey, I- I didn't want to hurt your feelings...

It's... fine.
Can you answer my question, please?

Of course, dear.

We captured one of their allies, Sarpo from MPC.

Really?!

I know right?
I'm surprised they didn't kill him off right there and then.

Huh. Pretty smart move on Hood's part...

Yeah, I was there when they decided on that too!

Yeah, it's almost a little "too smart" for her to came up with-

* closes her mouth *
Ssh... Be quiet!

Hey, what was that for?!

SHE is here.

Hood was slowly approaching the stage, inspecting every hoodster patiently waiting for their announcement.

Alright, my dear pumpkins.
We are slowly reaching the end of our conquest, almost the entirety of Perdiah is ours!
The only thing we need to do to guarantee our success is capturing that pesky turtle and fisherman.

In case they attack one of our remaining bases, I'm sending all of you to to your respective bases.
* looks at the crowd in anger *
I have already written down your assigned numbers on the bulletin board so get to it!

Member #3 tries quickly rushing to the bulletin board before Member #2 stopped her. She was panicked but her love's smile made her overcome those feelings.

Don't worry!
I already looked up where you were assigned to before I slept yesterday.
You are in the same group as me, in Thocle Base!

Heh...
* blushes *
Thanks Number 2! You are the best!

You are very much welcome!
* holds her hand *
Now let's go do some protecting!

Meanwhile on another side of Perdiah, it was snowing. Two figures could be seen walking around in the forest;

Yo, G!
* spits out the snow in his mouth *
How is the connection?

Still pretty bad!
* also spits out snow *
I tried calling Ms. Meow several times but the connection isn't good enough!

We might need to rest for the night again.

No G. We should keep movi-
*freezes in place *
What the?
* looks down at his feet and sees them fully crystallized *
On second thought, I might need some help here!

Cut forward to them inside Cave Coria;

* looks inside the cave *
It's alright, G!
You can come here!
The cave doesn't go deeper!

Thanks Bushra... though I'm still not getting good vibes from this place.

Relax!
We are only gonna stay here for like...
* looks at his non-existent clock *
Three hours.
I think that's enough for us to get back in shape.
* yawns *
I'm feeling pretty sleepy, G.
Mind if I pass out until then?

Sure man, sure.

* gives him the thumbs up *
Awesome!
* immediately sleeps *

While Bushra was sleeping, G builds a small confined wall around the cave. After finishing it, he sits down and waits. And waits... Eventually, he couldn't help himself but sleep on the other side of the cave. "What a day" G thought before his thoughts turned into mush.

After twelve hours, Bushra wakes up and look at the daylight. He gets audibly pissed and wakes G up.

G?! I told you to wake us up in three hours!
What were you doing?!

Wha-
* wakes up *
Hey! Don't act bossy around me, I got tired too!

* calms down *
We will talk about this later.
For now, let's hope the hoodsters didn't find us.

Yeah, you are right.

Wait.
* starts thinking *
What if they want us to come to them instead now that they got Sarpo?

Woah. That's... oddly smart of you.

* giggles with a toothpick on his mouth *
Yeah, it sometimes happens.

Where did you get that toothpick again?

* smirks *
What do you think?

Ugh, forget about it.
Let's just check our surroundings and be done with it.

Team Bushra exit the cave and surprisingly find no one in sight. The weather was also clear now. They walk around for half an hour until they get to a clear area.

Alright, let me try calling Ms. Meow again.
* dials her number *
(Please work, please work)

He waits for the connection to fail... but surprisingly, it doesn't. Filled with joy, G starts talking to Ms. Meow.

Erm... hi Ms. Meow?

Hello Team Bushra!
* G gives Bushra an annoyed look *
How are you guys?

We are good... but we need your help.

Oh? If it's about the bases, don't worry about that.

We already blew two of them up with your fireworks trick.

Well how do I put this...
Sarpo is missing, you see-

SAY WHAT?!

Look, calm down for a second!
We are kind of lost right now, can you meet up with us in...
* tries to read the town's name that's in front of them *
Town Unda? (Gosh who's naming these towns like this?)

Well... I will try.
See you guys in about an hour, we are kind of far away from there.

Alright then.
Let us know when you guys arrive, we will be waiting here.

Got it. See you soon.

G looks around to see where Bushra went only to find him fishing next to a lake.

Already found your spot, eh?

Yeah, G.
* shrugs *
I'm just gonna fish until they arrive.

Good on you.
* looks at the town in front of them *
Do you want something from there?

Nah, I'm all good.
* yawns *
I'm just gonna fish for funny looking fish.
I have been reading about a fish type called Lake Sturgeon.
It's apparently a very large fish that can dig up stuff on the bottom of the lake with their snouts.

That's kinda interesting...
* prepares his stuff *
But yeah, catch you later dude!

Have fun!

G starts walking towards Town Unda. It was a strange little place filled with mushrooms. Every house was covered with them, even the ground he was walking on was filled to the brim with mushrooms. He tried to see if anyone was still around.

Hello?
Is anyone there?!

No response. He was starting to get worried about this whole thing. Right before he left the area, he was something in the distance. It looked like a metallic building with a bunch of hooded figures guarding it. The second he saw it, he began to run as fast as he could towards Bushra.

* pulling the fish out of his fishing rod *
Jackpot!

*sees G running towards him *
Hey G! How are yo-

G trips and falls on top of him causing his fishing rod to fall into the lake. The fish takes advantage of this and jumps towards the lake.

Oh, come on G!
I had that fish in the palm of my hands!

Screw that Bushra!
I found one of the bases!
Sarpo might be there!

(surprised) You did?
Huh, what a coincidence.

Should we go and try to destroy it?

Are you serious?

(nervous) Ye- yes?

No way! We should wait for the kitty first!
Even if I don't like her all that much, it would be a suicide mission if we went there alone.

You do realize that if we stay here the hoodsters might find us, right?

Well... that's certainly a possibility.

And plus, I don't want to rest inside another cave ever again.

* grins *
That makes more sense.
* starts to pack his stuff up *
So we are going straight into the base with nothing?

* looks at his pockets *
I guess? What about you?

Well I do have my fishing equipment, some wood, a few shiny pearls and the trophy we won two weeks ago.

Well that isn't much... I guess we will have to figure something out on our way there!

Couldn't have said it better myself!
* opens a packet filled with raisins *
Also do you want some of these?

No, thanks.

Back on Thocle Base;

Phew…

* looks at her flying rocket *
That was a great ride! What do you think, Number 2?

(annoyed) Aside from it only having one seat, it was pretty cool.

Oh yeah, I forgot to update it.
Sorry honey.

It's all good.

I will be sure to lend my rocket to Number 50 when we get back home.

Alright.

While the two were settling into their respective guard positions, they saw a hoodster running towards the base entrance.

ATTENTION EVERYONE!
TEAM BUSHRA HAVE BEEN SPOTTED NEAR ONE OF OUR BASES!
BUT DON'T KILL THEM!
CAPTURE THEM AND BRING THEM TO THE MAIN BASE!

(irritated) Wow, that's stupid.
Even worse than Hood's last plan.

Shhh-

(frustrated) Don't "shhh" me!
This plan is just stupid!
Why is Hood just wasting our time like this?!
We literally captured the ONE person that could save them too!

I think we should focus on the mission first, then we can talk about it when we go back.

Sigh, fine…

Are you sure these disguises will work?

Tell me if you have a better idea or not?

You got me there.

The guards see them approaching and Bushra tries to put on a fake accent;

Hello amigos, it's a me, Forsanno!

Wha-

And this here lad is my amigo... Giraff!

The guards look at the two with a blank expression.

Bushra, I swear to-

The two get carried inside the base with their hands handcuffed.

I told you this wasn't going to work!

Oh, shut up!
Maybe they were going to get fooled by it if you didn't shut your damn mouth!

Can someone help me carry them to the main base?
* giggles *
Hood will be so happy about this-

Not so fast!
Travelers, ATTACK!

A bunch of Travelers come out of the windows to attack the hoodsters in the area. Ms. Meow jumps down and breaks the cuffs out of their hands.

Thanks Ms. Meow, glad to see you-

Is Sarpo here?

Uhm... I don't think so.
They would have mentioned him if that was the case.

(saddened but still determined) Okay Team Bushra, let's get out of here already!

Wait!
* points at two hoodsters trying to run away *
They are running off with the supplies!

Alright, G. You go after them while me and...
* looks at the fisherman *
What was your name again?

Bushra.

Right.
We will help out the Travelers while you deal with them!

Got it!
* chases after them *

Alright Bushra, let's help them o-

Right before they could move, a buff dude with the trademarked hoodster outfit grabs them. Bushra takes a closer look at the guy.

Wait... I remember you!
* starts laughing * Was your name Member #69 or something?

(terrified) I don't think this is the time for jokes-

Oh yeah!?
You think that's funny, punk?! I will show you!

He then proceeds to throw the two of them to a wall. Bushra tries to get up and sees Ms. Meow covered all in blood while the hoodsters were approaching them. He tries to calm himself down.

Hey... kitty cat?
Are you... okay?

No response.

(even more worried) Come on... you are scaring me!

Still no response. The hoodsters see him in pure panic and start to laugh at how pathetic he was unlike his usual self. But to their surprise, something strange happens. He starts glowing red and looks at his arms. All of the hoodsters were confused and decided to rush towards him. Bushra felt like... the water was moving alongside him. The pipes start breaking and the water starts flooding the base. The hoodsters try to escape but to no unveil. Literally every hoodster in the room get launched into the orbit.
Bushra stands completely still while all of that happened. When the chaos ended, Bushra started talking.

THIS FORM IS... STRANGE.
BUT NOT UNWELCOMED.
** looks around **
ONES WITH A DOCTORATE... STEP FORWARD!

* shaking from fear *

Uhm... yes?

GO AND TREAT YOUR LEADERS... OR ELSE!

And then Bushra's red aura disappeared. He was asked by multiple Travelers if he remembered what he just said but he responded with a "no". He wondered if he could do, whatever he did just now, again. And sure enough, he could. The water was moving with his command. He was both excited and also terrified by this revelation. Then suddenly... he remembered where G was headed.

G!!

Come on, Number 3!
We are gonna make it!

I'm coming! I'm coming!
You know these things are heavy, right?

I know but we gotta hurry before-

G catches up to them before they could reach their rocket ship.

Stop right there, folks!

Fat chance mate!
* puts down the supplies and rushes towards him *

(Please don't let me down fighting instincts)

And he somehow manages to take Member #2 out in one hit. Member #3 was looking at G dead in the eye before also rushing towards him. The two duke it out and G starts to get worried. She was way better at fighting than the other guy. He was struggling until she gets a lucky hit in. She was going to carry the unconscious G with them to the ship until she realized that the whole building was falling apart. She decides to just get Member #2 and the supplies before running away with her ship.

Member #3 looked at Member #2's unconscious body in sadness. She was starting to worry about the love of her life not making it back alive. G did some real damage on them. Right before she lost all hope, she heard their voice.

Ma-Maizie?

* starts crying *
K- Kyle!
* hugs them *
You are okay!
Thank goodness! I- I thought you were-

I'm okay, Maizie.
You don't have to worry about me.
* holds their head *
Ugh, what happened over there?

The G person knocked you out but I got us out of there!
* still holding their hand *
I- I still cannot believe you are-

* kisses her on the lips *
I'm okay, Maizie. Really.
* touches her hair *
Thank you for everything, honey-

* sees something in front of them and points at it *
Wait... We arrived, Maizie! Look!

You are right!
* starts to worry *
Oh man, I hope Hood won't get mad...

Meanwhile, Hood was waiting on the news regarding the new base. Until they were shocked by what they were seeing. Only one of their ships have returned from their shifts. Hood gets pissed and decides to greet the hoodsters that arrived. Hood calls the two hoodsters into their office.

Tell me what happened.

Ehem, we got raided by the Travelers.
When we realized that we were about to lose, we decided to bring all of our remaining supplies.

Did any of you encounter Team Bushra?

We did, G tried to stop us but we pulled through!

Did you two beat him before coming back?

I... couldn't fight him off, si-
I mean "Hood".
I was knocked out by him.
Number 3 did a lot of damage on him though and actually knocked him out.
* sees her blushing *

* looks at Member #3 *
So... YOU prioritized them over capturing G?!

I-

Stop talking right now!
* looks at Member #2 *
As for you...

Hood grabs a gun and shoots Member #2 on the head, leaving them dead on the ground. Member #3 was shocked by what just happened in front of her. Member #2... Kyle... was just gone in the blink of an eye. Their body suddenly poofed out of existence afterwards. Member #3 looked at Hood in fear.

I did that to show you that your little ‘love quest’ is meaningless, Number 3.
You have a lot of potential. Don't waste your time on them.
* puts the gun down *
Now, you can go back to your room. You are free for the day.
* giggles *
Have a good day, pumpkin!

Member #3 leaves Hood's office without any response. She was left with so many thoughts on her head. She no longer felt sympathy for anyone. She was tired of Hood's dumb plans. And Kyle... "If only" she thought before going to bed with horrible thoughts. It felt like all of our nightmares came true overnight. All she could do know was pray that it was all a bad dream...

CHAPTER 6.5: EPISODE BUSHRA

Wake up! Wake up! Wake up!

Who... huh??

Morning, G!
Man, you took a big hit there, thankfully me and...
* thinks for a second *
I actually forgot their names.
Well anyway, me and those guys got you out of the base just in time!
You should thank me!

Huh.
That's... neat, I suppose?
* looks around *
Wait, how did you guys get rid of all the hoodsters that fast?
We had like at least a thousand people there!

Well...
* looks at his hand *
I don't want to talk about it.

Huh. That's... oddly honest of you.

Psst, you are just imagining things!
Now come on!
We have hooded bastards to catch!

Wait!
Are we just gonna leave the Travelers with...
* realizes something *
OH NO! How is Ms. Meow?!

She is fine buddy, she's strangely doing a lot better than you though.
What gives?

I'm... not sure.
But nevermind that, I want to just eat something already!
I'm sooooo hungry!
* tries to get up only to realize that his left leg was significantly injured *
ARGH!

Well...
* tries to cheer him up *
At least now we know why you were feeling weak, right?

Not helping.
* tries to move his leg but couldn't *
Sigh... I guess I'm not gonna be much help until I heal up.

That seems reasonable!
Let me ask the furry people if they have any medical supplies!

Bushra runs towards the group of Travelers trying to heal Ms. Meow.

Oh, hello Bushra!

Hello kitty.
Do you guys have any other medical supplies by any chance?

* looks at all the wide open supply boxes *
I'm afraid not Bushra.
I think my clan used the rest of those on themselves.

Well... that's a problem.
* sees G still sitting on the ground *
Actually, I think we can use you guys' caravan to get supplies from nearby towns!
* doesn't wait for a response *
Yeah! Let's do that instead, I will call G real quick!

Wait!
* Bushra stops running *
There's one problem with your plan.
The hoodsters (and your attacks) destroyed the caravan!
We are basically stuck here now.

Oh, come on!
Are you serious right now?!
* tries to calm down *
Okay... fine.
Where can I find medical supplies then?

Well... have you tried looking at the town behind us?

G said that place was basically a wasteland filled with mushrooms.
I will still take a look though.
Any other places?

Hmm... I think Town Mercia is nearby.

Wait, really?

I believe so.
Perhaps take this map with you, just in case?
* hands over the map she was holding *

Fair point.
* picks up the map and prepares to leave *

Hold it.
Would you want any of us to come with you?

Nah. I want you all to stay with G.

OHH...
* smirks *
Are you worrying about your friend's safety?
What happened to "not caring about anyone"?

* also smirks *
No no, you silly cat.
It's nothing like that.
You see, I want to kick his butt the second we heal him.
I wouldn't want to get rid of that opportunity now, would I?

Good point.
* prepares food for him to eat during his journey *
We will go into hiding if the hoodsters come back.
Just call me if you can't find us.

Alright then.
* takes a breath *
Welp, here goes nothing.

Bushra starts running towards the sunset and hears G shouting behind him.

Where are you going?!

To a self contained adventure, G!

He runs straight ahead for half an hour until he gets tired. He sits down near a lake and tries to reach out to his fishing rod until...

Dang it!
I forgot I lost it in the lake.

He looks at the lake with little to no care in the world. He looks at his hands thinks to himself "Screw this" and starts using his new-found powers to create shapes on the lake. He was still unsure where these powers came from but he was just glad it saved all of them in the process. His thoughts get interrupted when he sees a small piranha swimming by the lake. He decides to confront the little thing.

Hello, little fella!

The fish didn't look back at him and continued swimming in its own path. " I guess talking to fish isn't included in the power pack" Then he decided to create a small wave on the ground. " I wonder if I can sit on top of this..." And as expected, he falls down to the ground and screams towards the sunset. Then he gets bored of doing that and continues his journey. 3 days pass since then... He was getting tired of the constant nonsense he was getting into until he finally encounters something noteworthy, a small swamp area with a bunch of flies. He decides to go that route because the other routes were... let's just say "full of health hazards"

Urgh… guess I have no choice.
Alright, let me see if I can control the mud at the very least.

You can guess what happened next.

Welp, should have seen that coming.

Before he could walk towards the mud, he hears sounds coming from the bushes. He thought that a hoodster must have been followed him all the way here. He looks around for objects to use as a weapon and grabs a stick that just fell from a nearby tree. Then he slams the stick to whatever was hiding in the bushes until he hears....

OW! HEY!
What are you doing?!

Huh?!
* retreats *
Who are you and what are you doing here?!

Answer me first!

Alright fine!
I'm just a fisherman looking for medical supplies for my... friend.

What was up with the attack then, huh?!

Look buddy, I thought you were someone else.
* points at him *
And now your turn, answer me.

Well, I was looking for berries to eat for the night!

Wait, you live around here?!

I mean... yeah?
I did not have much of a choice really.
As it turns out...
* gets up *
I was the only one that survived.

Wait... where were you from?

From Mercia.

THIS IS MERCIA?!

* still collecting berries *
Yeah pretty much. Did you even know of this place before?

Buddy, I used to live here too!
How did I not see you around back then?

Dude, I don't know!
I haven’t seen YOU around these parts either!

… fair.
Wait, if you were trying to survive here all by yourself here…
Do you have a place you stay in?
Surely they must have destroyed all of the buildings by now.

If you are so interested, allow me to show you.
Follow me!

Bushra decides to follow the stranger that he just met... how the tables have turned. Artender wasn't also fully onboard with the idea but he wanted to use this chance to hopefully escape from the remains of Mercia.

* points at the wooden house *
Well, here we are!

Wait.... wooden house inside a forest...
* realizes what he was looking at *
Buddy, I think we found G's house.

Huh... who is this "G" character exactly?

I will explain later.

As for now, do you have any medical supplies I can possibly use to help my friend?

Hmm... I will check the cabinets.
Give me a second.

Bushra waits outside the house, watching the sun rise to the top. He suddenly hears sounds of running coming from the forest.

Yo Artender, do you have any company around here?
Besides the hypothetical imaginary friends, I mean.

(confused) No, why do you ask?

* grabs a stick *
Because I think someone wants to mess with us!

Psst. What are you even-

His voice cuts off halfway through followed up with screams and even more running sounds. Bushra starts to worry and looks inside the house to see what happened. He sees a buff hoodster trying to chase Artender. He tries to look for anything he could use to use to stop the buff douche.

Yo Artender, go outside!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

There is no one else here!

We might take him out if we have more space to work with!
(Wow, that was smart.)

Artender leads the buff hoodster outside and Bushra finally manages to see the guy in full detail.

* nervously smirks *
Hey, aren't you Member #69?
I thought I killed you!

Wait... you guys know each other?!

STOP CALLING ME THAT!
*grabs a giant boulder and throws it at them *

They both successfully dodge it.

Artender! Does the house have any water pipes?!

* still tries to dodge his attacks *
I think so, yes!

Then help me break them!

How in the heck will that help us?!

Just trust me!

* takes advantage of Member #1020's hand being stuck on a rock *
Got it!

The two try to break the pipe with everything they got on their sleeves. The two start worrying with each passing second until they hear the horrifying sound of Member #1020 rushing towards them. For a last ditch effort, Artender hits the pipe one more time causing the water to fully leak outside. Both get away from the pipe and Bushra starts using the water to hold Member #1020 and throw him around like a basketball. Artender was so confused about what was going on but he watched all of it in amazement. Finally, Bushra stops attacking and walks up to the almost lifeless body of Member #1020.

This is for MY fishing rod!
* crushes the hoodster’s face with his foot, dealing the finishing blow *

Woah... what was that?!

For goodness sake, please shut up for a moment!
I will explain them later, okay!?

Sorry, sorry man.

The two sit down to relax.

Thanks for the help out there.

Don't mention it, man.

Also... did you find that medical supplies I told you about?

Oh. About that...
* stands up and pulls out a suitcase from under the sink *
Will this do?

* laughs *
Better than you could possibly think, buddy.

He he…
So… what now?

We are going back in... I mean we are going back to where the furry people are!

"Furry" people?

I will explain it on the way, trust me.

Past forward to a few days later...

Well, we are back, buddy.
* points at the air *
Do you see that smoke?
That's coming from my squad.

What is this so called "squad" called?

Team Bushra!

Well... that’s quite self centered.

G sees two figures in the dark walking towards them. He realizes that one of them was Bushra because of his hat but he couldn't make out who the second figure was.

Hey G!
How are you doing?

Cool, I guess? I spent some timing fishing...
* smirks *
Team Bushra style, you know?
Sigh… sadly I still can't move.

Worry not, G!
* pulls out the suitcase *
Here's what will help you recover!

Thanks Bushra!
Let me see...
* looks inside the suitcase and turns his head to Bushra with a confused look *
Dude, this is my stuff.
How did you manage to even find my house?

Well... uh...
* looks at Artender *
On the topic of that, meet Artender!

I'm guessing you don't know each other so let me introduce you guys one by one-

Oh, I know this guy.
You were the guy chasing after that trophy, right?
How did that go?

It’s… a long story.
* nervously chuckles and tries to change the topic *
Speaking of, how did you find him?

Well... he somehow survived the attack on Mercia and after we had a run back with a fat hoodster, we came back.

Sounds like a fun adventure!

Yeah, I used your house to survive, sorry.

It's all good, I'm just surprised they didn't destroy it.

Well, I was surprised about that too but…
* remembers the state they left the house in *
I think they kinda unintentionally accomplished that already.
* chuckles nervously *

Ms. Meow sees them talking from a distance. Artender gets shocked when he sees her.

Welcome back Bushra!

* points at Artender *
I see that you have also brought a new friend with you.
Come on new friend!
You must be exhausted after all that, let's heal you up!

I. Umm… Okay...

The two go to the healthcare tent to begin the healing process while G and Bushra were left alone.

Don't worry about me by the way.
She already ordered a few her clan members to heal me once they come back.

I see.
* looks at his own hand as it starts glowing *
Hey G. Want me to show you something epic?

Sure. I mean why not, am I right?

Bushra points his finger at the nearby lake to control the water. G watches as Bushra does spectacular stuff; like creating shapes on the ocean, creating a hand made by water etc. Bushra looks at G to hear his thoughts.

Meh.

WHAT!?

I have seen cooler stuff on TV.
* takes a sip of his coffee

(frustrated)Yeah okay, G.
You are very lame, buddy.

Can't help it man, it sometimes happens.

CHAPTER 7: THE MOUNTAIN THAT NEVER ENDS

3 years ago on Town Mercia...

Two MPC members were trying to stop a hooded figure from stealing crystals from a nearby mine. Even when faced with difficult situations, the two never showed any sign of weakness. It almost seemed like the two were having fun somehow.

You better give up now, Hood!
We already took down all of your hoodsters.
It would make things much easier if you went back to your mommy crying!

He dodges another attack coming from Hood's mech-armor.

You insufferable brat!
Come here and fight me like a real man!

Oh really?
* walks towards her *
Do your worst then!

Sarpo gives instructions to the MPC member next to him and she gives him a thumbs up. Hood tries to hit both of them before the two start their plan. Sarpo starts hitting the legs of the armor with his boomerang while the second figure climbs on top of the armor and gets rid of the head piece. Hood tries to get her off the mech-armor before the mech-armor falls down alongside her. She activates the escape rocket inside the mech-armor and launches herself to her base. The two laugh it off and go back to their homes.

Wow! That was fun, right Cloe?

Yep! I say we packed a real punch back there!
Though I gotta say, didn't expect what Hood brought to the table today.

I agree, that surprised me a bit too.
I wasn't expecting the mech-armor gimmick but it was still a fun challenge.
I wonder when she will learn that she can never truly beat MPC...

I don't know either.
It is fun to beat her and her hoodsters but I wouldn't mind living peacefully with you again.

* smiles *
Thanks Cloe.

The two go to the MPC Headquarters to update their statuses.
Afterwards, they went to have dinner.

So then, I told Jack about what happened today and I was surprised with he responded with.

What was it?

He said that the hoodsters were trying to get rid of this trophy but they failed over and over again because no sane person wanted to join their "tournament".
* laughs *
Man, they are not going to get rid of that trophy anytime soon!

Yeah, thankfully none of them can shatter the gem on it.
Or else we could have been in big trouble!
* giggles *

Wait, you knew about this already?

I mean... yeah?
Orville told me about it last night.

Huh...
* looks at her plate *
Hey, you haven't eaten anything since we sat down.
Is something wrong?

No, not really.
I was just thinking of something.

* fixes his bowtie *
Well, you can tell me all about it if you want!

No, thank you.
* gets up without eating a single thing *
Goodnight Sarpo!
See you tomorrow!

(a bit worried) See you tomorrow as well, Cloe...

Cloe had a nightmare that same night. She was startled and utterly scared by it. She woke up in the middle of the night just to check if

she was fine. When she realized everything was okay, she goes back to sleep. Fast forward to a day later, the two were having a nice breakfast until they were both notified that Hood was in the same exact mine. The two were rightfully confused but then they remembered their motto. "Never say no to a mission" When they arrived there, it was awfully quiet. Like no one was even here. Then they heard Hood talking;

Hello, my pumpkins.
How are you today?

We are pretty good actually, Hood.
How are YOU today?
* mocks her *
Don't you have anything else to do today? Or do you want to get launched back to your base again?

* giggles *
No, it's nothing like that, pumpkin.
I heard that you two wanted a rematch so I'm here to deliver!
Give me your best shot!

The two were confused by her actions but Sarpo decided to end this once and for all.

You asked for it!
* realizes that Ms. Meow was holding his hand *
Wha-

What are you doing, Sarpo?!
You shouldn't do this, what if it's a trap!?

(whisper) Calm down, Cloe.

Think about it this way, what if it ISN'T one?
We can end this here and now!

* gives up *
Sigh. Alright then, just be careful okay?

Sarpo doesn't respond and rushes towards Hood. The two battle it out in a fair 1v1 fashion before Hood pulls out a chip and plants it on the ground. Before Sarpo could realize what was going on, the chip turns into a chainsaw and Hood chops off Sarpo's right arm. Cloe hears his scream and tries to save him but Hood was already chopping off his right leg before she could reach them. Hood was hungry for blood. Cloe hits Hood on the head and Hood starts chasing her. Right before she was caught, a bunch of MPC members enter the mine to help them. Hood realizing she was outmatched, runs off. Some MPC members followed her but they couldn't find her. It was like she vanished without any trace. Cloe, on the other hand, was still in shock of that moment. Sarpo was bleeding to death but the doctors were thankfully helping him out.

A few days pass by and Sarpo finally gets out of the healthcare. But he wasn't the same, the right side of his body was almost completely robotic. Sarpo acted like nothing really changed in their life while Cloe couldn't get her mind off that moment. In that same morning, while they were chilling outside the facility, she told him;

I no longer think... I’m welcome here.

(confused) What's the issue?
We are fine and dandy!

No, you don't understand! Just... look at yourself!
Look at what Hood did to you!

* tries to cheer her up *
I admit that these last few days have been kind of stressful for me but I'm still okay!

I... need to go Sarpo.
I cannot bear to see you like this, it reminds me of what I could have done to save you from this horrible fate.

Wait!
* watches as she runs off into the wilderness * Cloe, wait!
* waits for her to comeback but she never does *
CLOE WAIT-

He wakes up from that horrible nightmare only to realize that his current situation was even worse. He was inside a jail cell, handcuffed, with only an air vent to keep himself sane. He heard footsteps coming towards him so he kept his mouth shut and waited for them to arrive. Two figures enter the room.

Alright, Number 3.
Bring this pumpkin to the chamber!
I want to test something!

Sigh... Sure thing, boss.

She tells Sarpo to get up and follow her. Two other hoodsters were behind him just in case he tried to escape. Sarpo was questioning why he was not killed yet but he did not like where this whole thing was going. But when he realized what Hood was planning for him, he started to worry.

Back at Thocle Base, the gang were preparing to make their next move;

* proudly looks at the fixed caravan *
Well, that should do it!

Yep, I gotta hand it to you dude.
This looks sick!
We managed to fix it way earlier than I thought too.

Meh, honestly it's still a 6 out of 10 for me but this works.

Ms. Meow walks towards them and looks at the fixed caravan in shock.

Woah... How did you guys fix up the caravan so fast?

Well... living on Mercia alone did help me understand these bad boys a lot better!
(At least, I think.)
Perhaps this could be my new hobby!

Who knows, buddy.
Only time will tell.

* claps *
That's awesome you guys!
I will let the rest of the Travelers know that it's time to go!

The three watched as she ran towards the other Travelers. The group started waiting for them and Artender asked the fabled question;

Wait, where are we even gonna go?

* pulls out the map he got from Ms. Meow *
We were originally gonna go to the final two bases but the cat lady thinks we should investigate the caves first.
I'm not sure why she thinks that way but hey, she's the boss!
So we are going back to that cave.

What's its name?

Something dumb called "Cave Inertia"

Wait, wasn't that the same cave us two and Sarpo went to?

Oh, right!
Before he...

…

I feel like I am missing some context here...
* also looks at the map *
Anyways… wait, we are going there by passing the Mountain That Never Ends?!

The what now?

I have heard of legends that when you enter the road leading up to the mountain, you cannot come back!

That's ominous.
* puts the map inside his bag *
Too bad we need to take that route.

Why so?
* sees Bushra pointing at other road filled to the brim with spikes everywhere *
Oh, I suppose you are right...

* runs towards them * Team Bushra, we are all ready to go! Are you guys also ready?

Artender and G enter the caravan to check if it was working as intended. And it was working just fine.

Ready as she will ever be!
Hop right in everyone! It's time for an adventure!

The whole gang enter the caravan and they start taking off to the Mountain That Never Ends while Artender and Ms. Meow drove the caravan. It honestly didn't start out all that bad. Just some weird anomalies but nothing too major went down.

* sees a waterfall *
Oooh... that's beautiful!
* look at Bushra while he was watching TV while eating popcorn *
What do you think Bushra?

* not listening *
Whatever you say, G.
* continues eating popcorn *

(annoyed) Well, you are lame!

Don't you DARE talk to me like that!
You are the same annoying bastard who didn't find my powers cool to begin with!

Come on dude, I'm just brutally honest sometimes.

I will show you something brutally honest.
* tries to use his powers but suddenly the ruins start glowing red, hurting him instead in the process *
ARGH!

(worried) Are you okay, Bushra?

(tired and angry) I'm fine G...
At least now we know we are in the right path…

* enters the room in panic *
Team Bushra! Did you guys also see that?

See what?

The glowing ruins.

Oh yeah, we did! Bushra-
* gets kicked on the leg *
OWW!

Ehem.
As he was saying, we also saw it occur.
Nothing more, nothing less.
* smiles nervously *

(confused) Alright then.
Take care, Team Bushra!

Both angrily looked at each other and then went to do their own stuff. It was uneventful for another few hours... but then, the entire atmosphere changed when they entered a road covered in purple smoke.

Man, this is so boring!

* tries to focus on the TV *
Shut up G, I'm watching a fishing documentary right now!

G looks around and realizes that there was no fresh air inside the caravan.

Hey Bushra!
* Bushra looks at him *
Can I open the window if you don't mind?

* clearly isn't listening again *
Yeah sure, I don't care.

G opens the window, expecting fresh air. But instead, the purple smoke starts invading the caravan itself. Artender and Ms. Meow see this occur on the drivers seat. They wear masks and try to close the window before it filled the caravan even more. They were successful with clearing out all of the smoke but the two realize that something weird was happening.

* coughs up the smoke *
Ugh… what happened?

* also coughs up the smoke *
I dunno either, Bush.
Either way, I don't really care.
* sits down to watch TV *

Su- sure G...

Ms. Meow approaches the two while Artender goes back to drive the caravan.

Erm... are you two alright?

(sarcasm) Of course kitty cat! Isn't that right, Bush?

O- of course G!
Whatever you say!

Something weird is going on...
Alright Team Bushra, I need to go back to the drivers seat.
Take care of yourselves, alright?

Of course, Ms. Meow!
Take care!

* still watching TV *
Yeah, whatever.

Ms. Meow leaves the room and goes to talk with Artender.

I don't know what's exactly happening but those two are freaking me out!

How so?

They are acting all weird, like their personalities got all mixed up when they inhaled that smoke.

That's a good working theory.
* looks in front of them *
Well, this is going to be a sharp turn.
Can you let everyone know that they should hold onto something for this?

Of course, give me a second.

Ms. Meow leaves the room to tell them but she sees something even worse happening in front of her.

God dammit Bush!
I told you to not open that window!

Sorry G, I was just feeling stressed...

The whole caravan started to get consumed by the smoke again but this time, Ms. Meow wasn't prepared for it. Artender sees her getting covered by the smoke, stops the caravan and goes to see how they were doing. And what he saw shook him to the core. All of the Travelers has regressed back to their animal origins. The elephants were fighting for space, the cats were trying to catch the mouses and Ms. Meow was of course, one of them.

Hey, Ms. Meow!
* points at her
Let's go back inside, okay?

She hisses and the cats alongside her start to chase after him. Artender quickly rushes back to the drivers seat hoping to get the cats off his tail. There was knocking from the back side of the caravan and Artender hesitantly opens the door. Bushra and G quicly entered the room and closed it as soon as both got in.

Yo, thanks Artender!
Those furries were acting mad crazy over there, isn't that right Bush?

(nervous) Ye-yeah G.
Glad we could escape from there...

You said it!

* looks at Artender *
So what are we gonna do now?

* tries to focus on the road *
I'm trying to get us out of this area.

I see.
* points at another sharp turn *
I think you might need to pay attention to that, buddy.

(confused) What the- Didn't we already pass this turn?
* suddenly remembers something *
Oh, the name.
Now it makes more sense.

Yeah, definitely.

The question is, how are we suppose to find our destination if we are just going in circles?!

Hmm... Let's try something else, how about we go backwards?

Not a bad idea!

Meh, it's not gonna work.

It’s worth trying!

They drove for an hour and they came back to that same sharp turn every twenty minutes.

Well... I guess that idea is out of the picture.

Perhaps I could try to fly the entire caravan with my powers?

We don't have water supplies nearby though.
Well, from what I have seen anyway.

Aww man... Wait!
* looks at his water bottle *
Maybe I could-

Hold on Bush, we need those for the trip.
I don't think we should risk it for the biscuit.

Come on G!
Just trust me for once!

I'm just warning you buddy!
Sheesh.

You are still not listening to me!

Oh, SHUT UP!
* accidentally hits Bushra *

Oh goodness, I'm sorry Bush-

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?!

* holding his head *
Ugh... where are we, G?

Bush, what are you talking about?

Bush?!
What are YOU talking about, G?

Stop calling me G, just snap out of it!

No, YOU snap out of it!

The two fight each other while Artender was trying to drive the caravan.

Alright Bushra, please calm down!

Bu- Bushra?
Are you... not gonna shout at me?

I... why are you acting so soft?

For crying out loud, you two!
Please sto-
* realizes that the brakes stopped working because he pushed them too hard *
HOLD ON TO SOMETHING GUYS, WE ARE-

Before he could finish his sentence, Artender accidentally drives the caravan off the cliff. Before they crashed to the ground, Bushra uses the water from his water bottle as well as all the other water supplies in the caravan to carry them away. It still pained him while using his powers but he tried his hardest to make them land to a safe place. They landed to another side of the mountain with Bushra holding his chest due to the amount of pain he endured.

After trying to calm himself down, Artender and Team Bushra step out of the caravan. They look around to see that they haven't looped back to anywhere. They also realize that the smoke didn't follow them around. The two started coughing and puked to the ground much to Artender's dismay.

Oh goodness... that was awful.

You said it, G.
* pukes even more *
I cannot believe I just acted like that...

That was the worst moment of my life....

And it all happened because you opened that DANG window!

For goodness sake, Bushra!
Let it go!

I will let my fists go to your FACE if you want!

Oh, PLEASE!
Stop using those kindergarten tier punchlines!

The two started arguing while Artender looked inside the caravan to see if the Travelers were okay. Most of them were trying to fix inside the caravan like it used to be while some of them were arguing with each other like the two kids outside. Artender goes back outside.

Alright, are you two done?

Yeah, I guess we are done.

* steps out of the caravan *
Oh my gosh, what happened?!

Long story short, you got affected by the smoke too and Bushra saved our butts once again.

But like, HOW?!
We didn't even have any water supplies we could use.

Well.... I had to use ALL of our water supplies... including the drinkable ones...
* chuckles nervously *

(tired) Ugh, fine.
Let's get going everyone!
* commands her clan to go back inside the caravan *

(also tired) Man, I hope we are close to finding that dang cave…

Artender repairs the brakes and the caravan starts moving once more without any issues. Everyone continued what they were doing beforehand. All except for one person.

Hey, G.
I… would like to apologize.

(confused) Huh? Bushra, are you alright?
Is the smoke stil affecting you or something?

No no...
I am just… sorry for acting too harsh to you sometimes, buddy.

I appreciate it but it just seems odd, you know?
Why specifically tell me this now?

Meh. Don't look too deep into it.
* chuckles and then reaches out his hand for a handshake *
Bracelet Buddies?

* smiles and shakes his hand *
Bracelet Buddies.

The two suddenly hear Artender stepping out of the drivers seat to do an announcement.

I think we reached the cave, dudes and dudettes!

G and Bushra went outside and looked at the supposed cave they were searching for.

Well, that certainly is the place.

Yeah that sure is the place, alright.

The crew start going further and further into the cave. G was still a bit uneasy because of his claustrophobia but he tried to take care of it without anyone noticing. All except Bushra, of course. The crew started to hear sounds of running and something getting hit from a distance. Everyone went into their fight stances and just as they predicted, there were hoodsters everywhere.
They started attacking the group from left and right. At first, they didn't know why they were here until G saw a glowing ancient text.

BUSHRA!
DISTRACT THESE GUYS!
I NEED TO MAKE A RUN FOR IT!

ON IT!

G starts running towards the ancient text while dodging the hoodsters' attacks. When he grabbed the text and shouted "I GOT THE TEXT GUYS!" he started glowing red just like the text itself. But unlike last time this happened, he felt terrible. Like something was kicking him on the inside. Combined with his claustrophobia, he loses his consciousness. The last thing he could hear was Bushra shouting out his name.

Back at Hood's main base of operations;

Hello, Sarpo.
How's it going?
Are you still in contact with that cat girl?

It's not your business, Hood.

How rude.
Did I ever disrespect you like that?

Yeah.
A bunch of times, in fact.

Tsk tsk…
Such a shame.

Let’s cut to the chase, Hood.
Why did you bring me here?
* starts tearing up *
Didn’t you take enough from me as it is?!

You would be shocked to find out the answer.

You better not be planning what I think you are-

Oh yes, I am.
Pull the lever, Number 3!

Member #3 reluctantly pulls the lever.

Behold…
Say hello to the Crystallizer 2.0 !

So you WERE still planning on using this, huh?
Didn't you get the memo all those years ago?

* giggles *
Not really, no.
Even though having hoodsters is cool and all... I wanted to do something more… interesting!
Number 3, start the crystallizer!

Member 3 looks at the crystallizer and realizes that it was unplugged. Before she put the plug back on, she remembered something that she desperately wanted to forget. Her time with Member #2 or as they were once called... Kyle. They still meant a lot to her. The two of them joined the organization long ago because of their fear of the prophecy. But even after all of her sacrifices, she was still left empty. Remembering all of this, she made a drastic decision. She pretended like the machine wasn't unplugged and pressed start button. And it didn't work. Hood loses her cool for a moment.

WHAT?!
* punches the machine *
What is the problem with this?!
Number 3! Throw this thing out to the trash!
* Member #3 runs as quickly as possible to not get on Hood's bad side *
You work years of your life to perfect a machine, AND IT DOESN'T EVEN WORK!

* giggles *
Anger issues I presume?

You are the one to talk, pumpkin.
Since you are about to get killed!
Number 4 and 64! Execute this moron!

Before she left the room to relax, she accidentally drops the key of the handcuffs. Sarpo was so relieved that she didn't notice this glaring mistake. He grabbed the key with his mouth and opened the handcuffs. Before the hoodsters arrived at the scene, they were already too late. He has already escaped through the vent system.

CHAPTER 8: RUINED MEMORIES

It was... a strange day on... Perdiah?

Ugh…

Yo, how are you buddy?
You took a big hit there!

I'm fine…
* tries to get up but fails *
Did you guys manage to fight off Xtress!?

Not yet.
The others went head first to battle.
I willingly stayed behind to help you out!
* helps him get up *
Come on buddy, we won't be able to make it!

The two chase after the figure in red. They were happy to finally find Xtress but soon their smiles turned into confused frowns.

Are you sure we are in the right place, dude?

Yeah, I'm pretty sure the footsteps came from here.

I hope you didn't mistake them with PotaTeo's rolling sounds, you know how they sound like footsteps.

Yeah, yeah, I get it.

He nods and they continue searching. There was no sound coming from this section of the cave. They were doubtful but the figure with the headphones was certain that their friends were here. They enter the section of the cave Xtress was supposedly in, only to find all of their friends lying dead on the ground. There were bodies everywhere; one of them had broken glasses, the other was lying down with a potato on her hands and shockingly of all, Xtress' hooded henchman was also dead.

Hello, friends!
How are you doing today?

The two go into their fighting stances, waiting to strike at Xtress.

Don't worry, I won't hurt you.

But... you- you killed them?!

Meh.
After all, they were just pests waiting to be squished.

But... you never did this before!

Times change, friend.
For once, I wanted to take a more... direct approach…
* points at the hooded corpse *

As soon as I realized my right hand man had plans for taking this crystal all for himself, I knew I needed to kill him.
Any more questions before you two meet your inevitable demise?"

Not so fast, Xtress!
* takes a few steps forward with his trustworthy hammer *
Us two will foil your plans as always!

* laughs *
Bring it on then!

It was an actual bullet hell. The two tried to avoid every projectile coming towards them. The figure with the hammer reflected the projectiles to Xtress himself with his hammer but his friend wasn't so lucky. The figure with the hat wasn't dodging the projectiles all that well and just as he feared, one of the projectiles hit him in the chest. The other figure looked at him in pure horror. He tried to help his friend but the projectiles never stopped coming.

* coughs up blood *
Don't worry about me, buddy!
Go destroy that sucker like we always do!

But I can't leave you like this, dude!

I appreciate your concern buddy but you should go-
* sees a projectile heading towards them *
LOOK OUT G-

Before he could finish saying his friend's name, both of them were hit by the projectile. Xtress was in disbelief. After all these years, after all the failures... he finally won the battle against all of these idiots. He walked past the now deceased corpses of the two friends to finally get his hands on the crystal. He uses his powers to pull the

crystal out of the wall but he accidentally pulls it a bit too hard. He looks at the crystal and sees a crack on it. Before he reconsidered his actions, the crystal started to glow. Before he knew it, the crystal turned into an ever expanding black hole.
He tried to escape as fast as he could but he was caught in the black hole, never to be seen again.

G wakes up from that horrific nightmare. He was horrified and left with so many questions. He looks around and sees Bushra and the others preparing to move out. It seems like they won the fight already. Bushra, now realizing G woke up, runs towards him to help him out.

Yo G, how are you buddy?
You took a big hit there!

G looks at him in terror, now realizing what was actually going on.

You good, buddy?

C- Can we just... talk for a second?

Uh, sure?
* sits down *
Well that's a bit awkward, don't you think buddy?
I mean we need to prepare for the final two bases and this text really didn't help us out a lot aside from making you feel sick.

Bushra... I don't even know how to begin.

(confused) Is something wrong buddy?
You seem awfully stressed.

I mean I understand that you just woke up from a nightmare but still-

Bushra.
* clears his throat *
I think our timeline might have been mixed up.
Maybe we existed in another life before... this.

G looks at Bushra for some sort of reaction only to be presented with Bushra just laughing it off.

Oh, G. You are hilarious!
* still chuckling *
You must have hurt your head REAL bad back there.
Are you sure you don't want me to call another one of those furrie-

(still furious) For goodness sake Bushra, they are called TRAVELERS!

* frowns *
Okay, okay.
Yeesh, I just wanted to make a joke, G!

* takes a breath *
You got a point Bushra.
I just.. don't know how to process what just happened.

(a bit worried) I hope you will get over it buddy.
* tries to change the topic *
Kitty cat and her friends are serving food for everyone in the caravan right now.
* points at the cave's exist *
Do you want to eat from there?

Wait a minute.
* looks at the ancient text *
I think I can translate this.

(confused) Since WHEN exactly?

I just have a gut feeling.
* looks at Bushra *
Can you take these as notes, please?

Gotcha.
* pulls out his notebook *

Ehem.
"Long time ago, there were two races. The Humans and the Travelers. These two races fought against each other for decades. But both sides were getting more and more tired as the battle went on. So the humans went onto unleash an ungodly being. They sacrificed themselves in order to create this being. And their plans succeeded. The creature, now known as Xtress, was free to roam Perdiah once again. At first, it all went according to the plan. The remaining humans used Xtress to get rid of the travelers from their lands. It all turned for the worse once Xtress started developing his own thoughts. He then used his powers to terrorize every living creature in the planet, including the Humans. After this atrocity the Humans had to team up with the Travelers to get back their planet from his hands. After years of trial and error, they sealed the being back into the Nor Plane in a frozen state, back where he belonged."

G takes a breath and looks at Bushra.

Woah... that was... weird.

I don't want to ruin the mood, G.
But I honestly lost it when the text started talking about the special zone.

Sigh…
You at least got them all written out, right?

* shows him the notebook *
Yeah.

Then that's good enough.

The two go back to meet up with the clan, not realizing the red aura surrounding the text was starting to vanish. When the two arrived, they saw that everyone there has already eaten their food and started packing up. Ms. Meow saw the two and waved at them. Both then sat down next to her.

* points at the plates *
I saved up food just for you two... even though my clan didn't really appreciate it...
But yeah, here you go.

* takes his plate *
Thank you cat lady!
* looks at G *
You can take yours too G!

However G wasn't listening. He was writing something on the ground with the chalk he just found.

If we go to here... No, no.
That's the wrong place.
We need to take a sharp turn from the west side of this mountai-

Artender accidentally steps on top of his drawings.

Oops, sorry man.
My apologies.

G looked at Artender in disgust. Artender didn't understand what his deal was but he did realize that something different about him. G's eye color was changing to a dark red color.

(worried) Hey, buddy?
You should eat.
You are kinda starting to freak me out here.
Wheres the G that rushed things to no end?

You don't understand Bushra.
I SAW what I needed to saw.
Forget the bases, we need to go back to that cave!

(frustrated) Now you just stopped making sense, buddy!

G then magically makes a hammer appear on his right hand.

(confused and worried) Ho- how did you-

BRING IT!

G rushes in to attack him but Bushra dodges his attack at the last second. Bushra readies his fishing rod for defence. He didn't want to fight with his bracelet buddy but he knew that he had to calm him down before he hurt anyone else.

Come on, buddy!
I know you don't want to do this.
Just drop... whatever you are holding and lets talk it out.

To his surprise, G makes his hammer disappear and sits down. His eyes were almost back to their natural color. He grabbed the plate on the ground and started eating the food like nothing happened.

Excuse me?

Whats wrong dude?
We just came here.

But you just-

Look. I saw the plate on the ground and thought it was mine.
Sorry for taking guesses, I guess.

That was not...
Okay then, buddy.

Bushra was so confused about everything but he sat down next to G hoped no one saw the two almost fighting each other. He had to find out what was wrong.

Back at Hood's main base of operations;

Member #3 was quickly disposing of the machine as Hood commanded. Before she called the hoodsters whom were responsible with taking out the trash, she took a look at the machine. It was simply majestic. She didn't even know what it was meant to do to begin with but something about it just fascinated her. She knew it was in a working state at the very least. Then she thought of a plan. If this didn't work, she would share the same fate as... them. This plan was her only remaining hope. She wore her hoodster outfit and went outside. She went to Member #50's workshop to get something from him.

* waves at him *
Hello Number 50!
How are you doing?

* waves back at her *
Hello Maiz-
I mean Number 3!
I'm doing good, how is it going with you?

Member #3 tries to change the topic. She wasn't emotionally ready to talk about what happened to her in the last two weeks.

I'm fine actually.
* pretends that she forgot something *
Oh gosh, Number 50!

Huh?
Is something wrong?

I just remembered that Hood wanted me to get rid of the blueprints for her new machine!

The Crystallizer?

Yep, that one.

Are you sure of this, Number 3?
I haven't received any notifications about this from Hood herself.

Just trust me, dude!
She forgot to notify you most likely because she just had me discard the machine itself a few minutes ago!

In that case...
* gives her the blueprints *
Here you go! Have a good day, Number 3!

* smirks *
I will! Thank you!

She went to her room and hid the blueprints in a place... where no one could find them.

When the group finished eating, the caravan was ready to go once again. Bushra was still a bit uneasy about what happened but he tried to hide it with his usual antics. He went to watch two of the Travelers duke it out. He called the waiter inside the caravan for a drink until he realized...

Wait-
Artender?!
You work as a waiter now?

Meh, more or so as a hobby.
Just trying to find something to pass the time.

* realizes that Artender was waiting for his order *
Oh yeah, two lemonades please.
G was suppose to arrive here but I haven't seen him around.
Have you seen him?

Nope. Maybe he's just-

G enters the room right as he was about to finish his sentence.

Sup guys!
How are you holding up?

Pretty good, G.
How... have you been?

What I saw at the caves today did made me feel a bit uneasy but I think I'm doing just fine.

Are you sure you feel that way?

Yeah? Is something wrong?

Bushra looks at G’s eyes only to see them turning more and more red each second.

* takes a breath *
Your eyes turned red and you tried to attack me-

WHAT?!

Excuse me, what are you two screaming about?!

It's true, G!
You started acting strange right after you woke up!

(worried) That... couldn't have happened!
Help me out here Artender, please!

* looks at both of them *
Look. I dunno what you two are even talking about, just ring the bell if you need me for somethi-

G rings the bell on the wall. Artender gives up and sits next to them.

So, let me get this straight.
I apparently tried attacking you before we went inside the caravan.

Basically yeah.

* holds his head *
Woah... that's... something.

Sure is.
The important question is, why is this happening to you?

Maybe because I touched that ancient text?

That's the likely theory.
I didn't act like this when I gained my powers though.

Huh?
Do you mean... I have powers?

Oh yeah, you basically spawned a hammer out of thin air when you tried to attack me.
I'm guessing that's your power.

Huh. Let me try if what you are saying is true.
* focuses on summoning the hammer and it spawns on top of the table, destroying it instantly *
Uh oh.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE, G?!

* ignores him *
It's all okay, G.
At least we know you can spawn a cool looking hammer.

* tries to get adjusted to using the hammer *
Yeah, you are right.
It IS a cool looking hammer.
I want to use this bad boy in the battlefield tonight.

You might as well say "now".

The three start panicking.

How long were you standing there?!

As long as I needed to.
* looks at his hammer *
What a cool looking hammer you have there.

Tha- thanks?
I'm glad you like it.

The pleasure is all mine.
But as I was saying, we almost arrived at the second to last base!

That's cool.

Well if we consider the fact that they didn't make any new bases or repair the ones we already destroyed.

* chuckles nervously *
Let's hope not!

Oh, we are already here?
I thought Bushra and G were going to talk about G's new character development more.

Team Bushra and Ms. Meow look at him all confused.

What?

* changes the topic *
Nevermind. So should we prepare the fireworks?

Yes, you guys may.

Back at Hood's main base of operations once again;

You are gonna tell me how I can get out of here or I will shoot you on the head!

Never!
The hoodsters will never fall!

Sarpo throws his boomerang towards the hoodster's head.

They did fall, alright.
* tries to reach to his phone but realizes that the hoodsters took it *
Gosh dang it.
He starts looking through the security cameras to see if something important was going on. The second he saw what was on one of the cameras, he almost fell down in excitement.

* talking to himself *
It's those two!
I'm surprised they are still continuing to destroy the bases without my guidence.

Sarpo continued looking closer to the camera and then noticed someone next to the blonde figure.

Is that...

Sarpo took a deep breath as he realized who it was.

Oh thank goodness, she’s safe.
* takes a sigh of relief *
I don’t know what the deal is with the blonde guy but I suppose I would find out soon...

He thought of what he could do to help them from here until he saw levers on the other side of the room. They were all labelled with the names of the bases. He thought these levers controlled the electricity power of said bases. He had a brilliant idea to pull down one of those levers. The camera he was on started glitching but the others were still working just fine. He was glad to help the group with their cause. That relief didn't last long enough when the hoodsters started flooding the room. He readies his boomerang to attack.

Sigh.
Here we go again.

Meanwhile outside the base;

Did the lights just go out?

I'm not entirely sure... but I think we can use this to our advantage!
Artender quick!
Set the fireworks up!

Got it!

All of the hoodsters inside the building were confused because of the power outage and all of them went outside to see where the fireworks came from.

CHARGE!

All of the Travelers, Team Bushra and Artender jumped out of the bushes to fight the hoodsters. Bushra and G fought side by side, Bushra was using his water magic to throw the hoodsters towards G and he was hitting the hoodsters that Bushra sent to his way with his hammer. The hoodsters were obviously not prepared for this fight and not having a way to communicate with their last base of operations made it all the worse for them. Not even twenty minutes in, they took down almost every hoodster in the area. G put down his hammer and Bushra was ready to relax at any second. When the two saw one hoodster coming out of the bushes to stab Ms. Meow, they tried to warn her. Before they could warn her, she had already dealt with the hoodster with just one claw attack. The two started clapping as Ms. Meow walked towards them.

Thank you gentlemen.
It's an honor.
* looks at the now empty base *
Folks, we can use this base to stay for the night.
Wouldn't you guys agree?

The clan cheered for her and started moving their stuff inside the base. Everyone was thankful that no one was hurt during this fight unlike all of their previous battles. They all picked a room for themselves to rest for the night. G and Bushra picked a room with a bunk bed inside it.

Sooo... who's gonna sleep at the lower bunk?

Me.

Honestly at this point, just take it.

Meh, you can take it.
I changed my mind.

No, you should take it.

No.
* looks at him directly in the eyes *
You should take it.

The argument went on for half an hour until Bushra decided to sleep on the upper bunk. Even though G was still horrified about what he saw today, he was just happy that he now had friends that could support him until the very end. He turned off the lights and hoped that they could rescue their friend, Sarpo soon.

CHAPTER 9: THE FINAL BASE

It was yet another peaceful day on Perdiah. Or so our gang thought. After taking a break inside what remained of the base they invaded, they knew that this was all coming to an end. One more base... and they would all be free. Finally free to continue their normal lives. But they were all scared one way or another. Some of them were scared because they never fought against Hood before while some were thinking of the prophecy in more detail. They had to destroy that base before things turned for the worse.

Wake up, G!
* shakes G's bed *
Come on, buddy!

Urgh... huh?
Just give me like five more minutes dude.

The cat lady told us to meet up at the center!

I need to wear my clothes first, dude!
And also do my hair.

What do you mean by that?
You mean that one strand of hair?

Geez, what do you think?

Come on buddy, we don't have time!

Artender enters Team Bushra's room to complain about their loud noises.

Can you two PLEASE shut up?!
I literally woke up because of you guys!

Oh, good timing.
You also woke up.
Phew, you saved me the trouble of waking you up.

(confused) What are you talking about?

The kitty cat-

Ms. Meow.

Yea but anyway as I was saying, the kitty told us to meet at the center of the base, like... right now!
I wonder if we are going to strike early.

Most likely.
* brushes his tuft of hair *

HA! He thinks he has hair!

Be nice, buddy.

No, it's all good.
He should be thankful that I don't talk about HIS hair style.

What are you implying with that?!

Hey! Only I can boss G around!

ENOUGH!
* everyone looks at her *
I swear you are literally all acting like children!

We are one, though.

I honestly don't care.
I just want you all to pack your stuff up and… HURRY UP!
* shuts the door with a loud slam *

You heard the lady.

Alright.
* prepares to leave the room *
I already prepared my stuff yesterday.
So, might as well visit the cafeteria.

Aren’t we suppose to meet at the center?

Yeah but… I’m hungry, okay?!

* nods his head *
Okay then.

Also… they have a cafeteria here?

Yup! Apparently!
I mean, how else were the hoodsters suppose to eat here?

Fair enough, smarty pants.
* takes a sip from the water bottle he was holding *
Let me guess, your next line “Perhaps I can make exploring random places my new hobby!”

I-

Psst… be careful, dude.
* chuckles *
You might rob Artender of his gimmick.

Shut it.
I will deal with you later, G.
YOU WILL SEE!
* shuts the door loudly *

Sheesh... what's his problem?

Don't care, didn't understand it one bit, anyways.

Alright then…
* finally packs up all of his stuff *
Yep, I'm all packed up.
Did you also pack up, Bushra?

Oh, absolutely!
* shows his massive suitcase *

Firstly, why do you have that and secondly, where did you find it?

Well, you see my friend.
I found it from this wardrobe last night.
And oh yeah, speaking of which...
* opens the suitcase containing 100 bottles of water *
Does this answer your question?

Woah, that's... pretty smart of you, dude.

Thank you G, thank you.

Before the two went to the center, G had to ask him something important;

Do you... do you think we will win this, Bushra?

Of course buddy!
What makes you say that?

I don't really know.
Maybe it's because I'm a bit scared?
I mean, I don't have the same level of experience with my powers as much as you.
Maybe it's because of… that?
I'm not even sure.

* puts his hand on G's shoulder *
Buddy... calm down.
We ARE Team Bushra! We can do anything.
We even have a whole crew backing us up!
Believe me when I say that we don't need to worry about anything.

* giggles *
Well, you got me there.

The two then hear violent shouting coming from downstairs, presumably Ms. Meow shouting at people.

Yeah, let's not risk it.

Oh, definitely.

We have to get Artender in on this too…

The two leave their room, never to return there again. The two start running around the building to find where the cafeteria actually was located. Bushra managed to find Artender sitting all by himself in the room with a potato in his hand.

Buddy!
I have been looking all over for you…
* notices the potato *
Why are you holding that?

I came here to eat some actual food and all they gave to me was this.
BLEH! How barbaric…

I get your dissapointment but this is not the time to complain about this, buddy!
Come on, Ms. Meow is gonna kill us!

I... suppose so.
* looks back at the potato *
I guess it’s better than nothing.
Better cherish it if anything.
* puts the potato inside his pocket *
Alright, let’s get this over with.

After the two found G trying his best at finding Artender, they rushed towards the centre. When they arrived there, they noticed that the centre of the base was far more crowded than they expected. It seems like more people joined them overnight just for this final fight. Ms. Meow was on the stage, preparing to do an announcement.

Hello everyone!
Thank you all for coming here!
As you might have already heard, we are finally at the end.
All we have to do now is killing the hoodsters' leader; Hood!

Her army has been causing suffering to all of us.
To your family, to your friends, to EVERYONE!
And today, we will change that!
Come on, my brothers and sisters!
No matter which species of origins we came from, we all want her and her evil ambitions to finally stop!
* look at the crowd dead in the eye *
So what do you say? ARE WE IN THIS TOGETHER?!

Everyone starts clapping, including Team Bushra. It was all finally coming to an end at last!

As Ms. Meow commanded everyone to enter the caravan, everyone was anxious. No one knew how the day was going to end but they were sure of one thing.

They were going to die trying.

Member #3 on the other hand, was currently having a mental crisis. She knew that Sarpo was onto them. Her comrades on the bottom floors couldn't take him out and it was likely that he was coming for them next. She took all of her stuff and looked at her room for the last time. She left her room while not even saying "goodbye" to her hoodster friends. She enters Hood's office and locks the door before turning around to talk to her boss.

Welcome back, Number 3!
Any news on Sarpo?

No, ma'am.
We tried to contact our troops but everywhere he goes, he just controls the area perfectly.
We can't even contact them!

Hm… This is… troubling.
I knew I should have killed him there!
* looks at Member #3 *
Hey, Number 3.

She looks at Hood, interested to hear what her boss was going to say.

You see pumpkin, you have been doing an amazing job recently.
Even though we are currently… in a pickle, I think you were one of my best hoodsters yet.

Thank you ma'am but excuse me if I am asking this... why now?
We are in a bit of a mess right now.

* smirks *
Because I have a plan, pumpkin.
But before I do that... I want to talk about something with you.

What is it?

I would like to give you... your life essence back.

Hu- huh?!
But the spell-

It doesn't matter to me anymore.
We are already in the end game, pumpkin.
At worst case scenario, I need someone to be my second in command to back me up with the final step of our plan.
So... do you accept my generous offer?

* smiles *
Of- of course ma'am!
I would love that!

Hood uses her unique red ring to touch Member #3's heart. She closes her eyes and waits for the process to be completed. At first, Member #3 fekt nothing... until she opens her eyes. She felt far more alive than ever.

Well, I hope you are satisfied Member #3!
Or should I say... Maizie?

I- I don't know what to say....

Welcome to the club, pumpkin!
Now you can join me and your other hoodster companions with this new gift of yours!

Maizie was so unbelievably happy that her jaw was starting to hurt from smiling too much.

This is... hard to process, ma'am.

You will get used to it eventually, pumpkin.
Some of your hoodster friends have already experienced this.

So ma'am, what are you planning to do?

Watch and find out.
“Attention everyone! I command all of you to return to our last remaining base for our final attack. Good luck!”

Maizie then watches as Hood tosses the microphone to the ground. She was confused but intrigued. Hood had mistakenly helped her in so many ways. She thought of a lot of ideas on what to do once the prophecy was fulfilled. Now that she wasn't forced to work for the

hoodsters, she had a bunch of ideas in her head, waiting to happen. Her thoughts were interrupted once a certain individual appeared on the door.

Knock knock! Who's there?
Oh right, it's Hood!
How is it going, "pumpkin"?

YOU!

(sarcasm) Yeah, I'm happy to see you too.
By the way, do you guys have any food around here?
I'm starving!

Hood calls the hoodsters in the nearby areas to get rid of him. Sarpo quickly dodges their attacks and perfectly times a boomerang shot to poof them all in one shot.

That isn't very nice of you, Hood.
I just asked for some food and you give me THIS in return?
Not cool, sister.
* points at Hood *
Now if you will excuse me, I will need you to do another announcement to cancel your whole operation PLUS bring me some food.
Are we clear?

No pumpkin, we are not!
* looks at Maizie *
Don't just stand there, attack him!
Buy me some time!

Maizie steps in to fight Sarpo.

Heh. You won't even fight yourself and would rather send your dumb hoodsters against me, huh?
Good on you for not changing your ways at the very least, Hood.
But before that...
* goes into his battle stance *
Show me all you got!

The two duke it out while Hood tries to escape from the room. She goes to the hidden elevator system underneath her office and enters it.

See you later, pumpkins!

After getting out of the pipe system Hood destroys the elevator system, causing the path to get blocked.

Gosh dang it!

Sarpo tries to catch up with Hood but Maizie stopped him in his tracks. Sarpo gets a lucky hit on her face and throws her to the ground, causing her to start bleeding.

Urgh...
* looks at her hands *
I- I'm... bleeding?

Sarpo was also confused by her reaction to this. Taking advantage of this, Maizie runs away from him and locks him in that same room by activating the "extreme defense mode" with Hood's remote. After escaping, she tried to find a napkin to cover her wounds. She actually forgot how it felt to bleed after so long.

DANG IT!
* punches the door in anger *
Sigh... I guess I have no way of following those two.

* sits down *
Better make the most of it.

Sarpo starts to destroy the office supplies and uses the remains to create a bunch of objects he could use to get out of there or at the very least, help the crew outside.

Well. This is it, folks.
Get ready for the battle of your lives!

* points outside while driving *
It seems like they got the memo as well, look at all those hoodsters waiting on the gate!

I mean I thought it was pretty obvious.
They obviously want to keep their final base fully secured!

Yeah, he is right.

Shut up, G!

Geez, let it go already!

Everyone, shut up! We are here.

The group get out of the caravan and look into the horizon. Everyone was worried that everything could go wrong at any second but Ms. Meow encouraged them all once again. Team Bushra and Artender were also preparing for the war.

Are you sure you can carry that whole suitcase with you to the battle field?

Oh, absolutely G!
This will help us big time!
* looks at the horizon *
Man, I can't believe I will be able to go back to my old fishing life when this is all over.

I really don’t know what to do, honestly.
* looks towards the unknown *
Saving Perdiah with you guys showed me that there was more to life than I initially thought.
I don’t want to go back to the aimless life I had once before…

Glad you feel that way, man.

Me too actually.
I don’t know what to do after this whole thing’s over.

Meh.
We will figure it soon, buddy.
But for now, let’s stay positive and energetic!

You are on, dude!
Want to do the honors of "rolling the wheel" on these guys?

Oh, I would love to!

I feel like I don't get the reference here-
After walking for ten minutes, they were finally on the battle field. Both sides were waiting for their leaders' commands.

As the current leader of all of these people, I ask you all to surrender!
You don't have to do this!
Fight back your oppressors and join the right side!

A lot of disapproving grunting sounds arise from the other side. She predicted that this was going to happen but it was still heartbreaking for her nontheless.

Alright then… FOLKS!
CHARGE!

It was a fierce battle. Everyone on each side were dying one by one. Even though the hoodsters didn't bleed, it was still a horrific scene. G and Bushra were fighting together as a team. Just like yesterday, their strategy was the exact same. Launch the hoodsters to G so he could do the finishing blow. That strategy was all fine and good until they heard someone shouting from the base's balcony.

HOOD.

Hello gentleman and gentleladies!
Welcome to your demise!
Or as I would like to call it "The Beginning of the End"!

The Travelers were confused, heck even the hoodsters were confused by this. They all thought this battle was the end they were all waiting for. But something worse was about to happen.
Hood raised her hand and started shouting something in an ancient language. The hoodsters started to scream in agony as all of them

started to melt one by one. Every hoodster that had their life essence removed were started to melt into nothing. G and Bushra also started to feel weird, their red auras were glowing way brighter than before. They didn't disappear like the rest but the two felt weak afterwards. All of the hoodsters' life essences went inside Hood's red ring and for the final step of her plan, she threw the ring to the ground. Everyone left alive was shocked by the events that just transpired. Even Maizie, whom just got back into the battle field, saw these events happen in real time. She was super relieved when she realized she was safe from the spell. But that only made her more confused. "Why" did this even happen exactly? She looked around and saw a few other hoodsters confused and scared. "So that's what Hood was referring to" she thought to herself. Before she could think more, a portal appeared on top of the now broken ring.

A red shadowy figure came out of the portal. G was absolutely shocked by these turn of events. He knew that figure from anywhere. The figure looked so unnatural and otherworldly. G didn't remember Xtress looking like this. He looked like a weird combination of both him and Bushra complete with a wizard hat. While all of this was going on, Hood was so happy that all of her planning finally payed off. While everyone on the battlefield waited for Xtress to attack, he looked more confused than anything.

Where... am I?

Hello master! Welcome to the modern day!
You were frozen in Nor Plane for so long that I knew I had to unfreeze you from there
I hope you will enjoy conquering this world with...
* shows off *
Me by your side!

Who even ARE you?
What do you mean by "unfreezing" me?

(confused and scared) You... don't remember?

Get out of MY SIGHT!

But... sire...

ENOUGH.

Everyone watched this god incernate unleashed an energy wave that knocked everyone to the ground. Ms. Meow catches Hood right before she hit the ground.

(sarcasm) Good job Hood!
NOW what are we gonna do?

* losing her mind *
I don't know!
I did everything the prophecy told me perfectly!
I was suppose to be his right hand lady! I was...

Well, you done goofed up!
How does it feel, huh?!

Seriously, what are you bragging about?
I don't even know you!

Ms. Meow sees Team Bushra trying to get up while Artender and Hood were still arguing.

Are you two okay?

* sweating *
Yeah, totally.
I felt worse when I once ate too many fish in a single day.
How about you, G?

Same here, my chest is hurting a bit though...

Both of them get up to see Xtress destroying everything. Even though he did not remember much after he was frozen, one thing was sure. He still loved destruction. While the group was watching in horror as Xtress started killing everyone in the area, they heard sounds of rumbling coming from the now destroyed base. It was Sarpo holding a giant wrench. He waved at the group until he saw Xtress. He jumped down to the ground with the help of his robotic leg. He initially didn't see Hood with them but when he did.... oh boy.

WHAT DID YOU DO?!

I DIDN'T KNOW THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN!
HE WAS SUPPOSE TO BE IN MY CONTROL!

ENOUGH!
* pulls out his boomerang *
This has been a long time coming Hood! Prepare to-

SARPO, STOP!

(confused) What do you mean Cloe?
She is getting us all killed here!

* looks at Sarpo *
Sarpo, listen. Maybe she can help us contain him!
* points at the still open portal *
Or better yet, get him back inside that portal!

You are... right.
* looks at Hood *
This isn't over yet, Hood!
I will still make you pay for all you did!

Don't waste your breath pumpkin.

Urgh... we need to make a plan-

But it was too late, Xtress finally realized that they were standing there. He started blasting the Travelers, the innocent citizens and so many other people. They needed to strike NOW. Team Bushra finally decided to take matters into their own hands. Even though the two of them were scared, they knew that they had to end this the way it started. Xtress sees the two were walking towards him.

Oh, here comes the reptile and the fish!
So you two were the ones messing around with a part of my powers!
Well, I hope you had your fun because you will no longer have "fun"
HAHAHAHA!

The two went to their fight stances. G had his hammer on his right hand and Bushra was jam packed with water supplies.

(confused but strangely excited) Oh.
So you two still have a piece of my powers.
* chuckles *
This should make things more interesting.

Are you ready for this, Bushra?

Ready as I will ever be, G!

And thus, the battle of a lifetime began.

CHAPTER 10: END OF THE CHAOS

It was a horrible day on Perdiah. The time had finally come for Team Bushra to face their biggest foe yet. It was only a few months ago when they didn't have to worry about anything in life. But now, the lives of everyone rested on their shoulders. Team Bushra were ready to fight Xtress.

Well... Who wants to go first?

Before G could ask Bushra what they should do, Bushra raises his hand.

Before we start...
* takes one step forward *
Can you tell us who you are?

* smirks *
My name is Xtress!
A sorcerer from-

Sorry, I wanted to say "Who asked?"

Xtress gets embarrassed and frustrated afterwards. He tries to attack Bushra by throwing a fireball at him which was quickly stopped by G.

I don't think we should be THIS reckless, Bushra.

Bushra almost gets hit while trying to listen to G.

* takes a breath *
Noted. You take his left and I will take his right.

Got it!

G throws his hammer towards Xtress' face in the hopes of getting a surprise hit but unfortunately, he realized something horrifying about Xtress.

* holding G's hammer *
Oh, you wanted this? Too bad, reptile!
This is MY hammer now!

Bushra saw what was happening and tried to support G by sending waves towards Xtress. Unfortunately, Xtress was predicting he was going to do that so he turned Bushra's wave against him as well. The two were in shock after this encounter but they weren't ready to give up just yet. The two ran towards Xtress to hopefully put an end to his reign.

Meanwhile, an ex-MPC member was talking to Hood.

Alright Hood.
Tell us how we can destroy this... creature.

* smirks *
Relax, pumpkin.
I had a back up plan just in case the plan failed.

(confused) Wait. If that's the case, then why didn't you use that back up plan when you were next to him?

And most importantly, why did you cry like a baby a few minutes ago?

Because SOMEONE had to break into my office before I was done preparing!

Sarpo looks away in embarrassment before Ms. Meow tells him to stay focused.

Alright then, Hood.
We will play your little game.
Are we going to the base then?

Exactly, pumpkin!
We need to hurry before those two morons slip up and Xtress finds out what we are planning!

Good point.

HEY!
* runs towards them while holding the same potato *
What about me?

It may be dangerous, blonde dude.
I think you should help out the survivors instead.

But why can't I come with you guys?!

You see, pumpkin.

Since my precious base got destroyed, it basically turned into one big safety hazard.

As much as I hate to say it, she's right Artender.

I'm always right, pumpkin.

Shut up Hood.

Are you serious?!

You heard the ladies, blonde dude.
Get to it.
* looks back at him before leaving *
I'm aware that we just met but Cloe is a very smart person.
For now, please listen to what she has to say about the matter.
Hopefully we will get to know each other better when this whole fiasco is all over.

* puts the potato inside his pocket *
Seconded it.

Artender watched as the three entered the remains of the base. He was still mad towards Hood for destroying his lively hood but deep down, he knew Sarpo was technically right. Even though he felt like he was excluded from the gang, he wanted to support them in some way or another.

Meanwhile things weren’t going so well with Team Bushra as G got launched to the ground by Xtress’ monster arm.

ARGH!

G!
* helps him get up *
Are you okay, buddy?

* picks up his hand *
I'm fine!
Don't let Xtress distract you!

Xtress attacks Bushra but Bushra manages to fend him off. Bushra then sees Xtress charging a projectile towards G.

Look out, G!

I got this!
* sends Xtress' projectile back to him *

ARGH!

* smirks *
Good job, G!..
Wait, why didn't he control your hammer again?

I... don't know.
Maybe he can do it occasionally?

G’s hammer suddenly turns red.

Well... I stand corrected-

Bushra dodges the hammer's attack and launches it back to G's hands. The hammer was back to normal.

Huff puff...
If we continue like this, we might actually beat this sucker!

I wouldn't celebrate just yet!
* points at Xtress *
Look!

Xtress raises his hand and starts to cast a spell they couldn't hear. All of the objects around them started to move with their newly added eyes and monster teeth. He was making the objects come to life! In the middle of his spell however a rock hit Xtress' left eye, causing it to bleed.

ARGH!
* loses his focus *
WHO DID THAT?!

I did, you maniac!

Xtress orders his minions to attack Artender first but Team Bushra were already on their way to protect him. It felt like they were fighting something that came from a terrible horror movie. There were vegetables with eyes and sharp teeth ready to strike at any moment. They were luckily able to take out all of them. Xtress gets angry and starts shooting lasers out of his hand.

GET DOWN YOU TWO!

The three of them hide behind a wall that was split from the base. The laser sounds eventually stopped. They were expecting Xtress to unleash another attack but instead, they saw Xtress lying on the ground. G realizes that Xtress was shaking and glowing way brighter than before.

Um... Bushra.
I think you shouldn't go near hi-

Xtress then opens his eyes and roars like an actual animal. The roar causes a wave of energy that damaged everything on it's path. Team Bushra realizes this and both of them used their powers to defend themselves from the wave. They tried their hardest to not get hurt the wave but it was too strong. The three flew away with no way of telling where they were going to land. And then, what G feared happened.

Meanwhile, inside the base;

* leans to the nearby wall *
Woah, did you all feel that?

Yeah, that was intense!
I wonder if those two are doing alright...

Meh, they will probably be fine.

How are you so sure about that?

* jumps on top of another rock to reach the next floor of the base *
Because he wants his powers from those two, pumpkin.

Why did you think I wanted those two so badly?!

I-

* steps forward *
I think she knew that already, Hood.
Now quit fooling around and tell us how many floors we need to pass before we reach this office of yours.

Fine, you stubborn...
* does a basic addition problem with her fingers *
I think we have like... two more floors to go?

Dang it, we are going too slow!

Hey! If the elevator system still worked, we would have been there in a minute!

Just for the record, you were the one who destroyed the system. Not me.

Hood didn't respond and just continued walking. Then Sarpo realizes something, the lack of a certain someone…

Hey Hood!
What happened to your second in command?

Oh right...
She's probably dead.

(confused) How are you so chill about this?!

They are all replaceable, pumpkin.
After I destroyed the elevator system, the whole building was damaged.
Even I barely got to the balcony. I would have been a goner too if I wasn't fast enough.

Huh. I see...

The three continue climbing until Hood tells them to stop.

Lucky for you pumpkins, we have arrived!

The three see the remains of Hood's office. Ms. Meow notices the giant hole on the wall.

Yeah, I escaped through there.
* smirks *
You should have seen the whole thing, Cloe.
It was a great sequence.

HAHA! I got it!
I found what we needed, pumpkins!
* shows the ring *
Now, we need those two morons to lure him into the portal.
And then all of our troubles will magically go away!

Huh.

Alright then so what are we waiting for!?
Let's go!

Hold on a second, pumpkin.
There's one thing left that we need.

And that is?

We need the trophy I gave those two morons to get this fully working.

Oh... so that's where those two got their powers from...

* giggles *
Oh, really now?

The building starts shaking again but this time, the floor on top of them started to break as well.

Yeah, we should definitely need to go.

* looks through his bag to find something useful *
I think... I got it!
* pulls out an overly large umbrella *
Come on Cloe, let’s get out of here!

Before they could float downwards with the umbrella, Hood managed to grab Ms. Meow's legs just in time. Sarpo was understandably mad but he tried to focus on the mission at hand.

They had to find Team Bushra and hopefully bring an end to this nightmare.

Artender wakes up after taking a nasty hit from the fall. He opens his eyes and finds a small figure helping him recover. It was.... a small potato?

Huh... what... what are you?!

The potato looked at him in the eyes but didn't say a thing. The potato had a hat and stick like arms. He did not have any legs either. He was bandaging Artender's broken bones.

Tha... thanks?
* waits for a respond and gets confused when he doesn't get a response back *
So… you can't talk then?

The potato nods (his head?) from left to right. Artender was still unsure where this potato creature came from but he learned that the creature was friendly. He suddenly heard another explosion sound. He told the potato that he needed to go help out his friends. The potato agreed to help him out and the two ran towards the battle field.

G saw Bushra all beaten up by the wave. He was bleeding and holding his chest. He could not see Artender anywhere but he hoped he was alright.

Don't worry about me, man!
Go destroy that sucker!

No... NO, *NO*!

(confused) Are you alright buddy?
I appreciate your concern man but you should go-

G sees a projectile coming straight towards Bushra and starts panicking. Before the projectile hit Bushra, G sent it back with his hammer. Xtress looked at G all confused until he saw his eyes. They were fully red.

HOW DID YOU-

Without a warning, G ran towards Xtress to hit him on the head. Xtress just barely dodges the attack. He tries to control G's hammer but he somehow couldn't.

Huh.
This was not what I expected out of you, reptile...
* starts laughing like a maniac *
It doesn't matter if you are attacking me from all fronts, reptile
I WILL STILL HAVE THE LAST LAUGH!

The two continue fighting until Bushra shouts at G, telling him to calm down. G looks at him but continues fighting anyway. Bushra tries to stop their fighting but he couldn't get up. Luckily, Artender and his new potato friend showed up to give him support.

Artender... buddy?
* sees the potato *
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!

That's... just my new friend.
I call him "PotaTeo".
But never mind that, are you hurt badly?

Very much so.
* coughs up blood *
I tried to get help from G but the same thing that controlled him yesterday took him over.
I couldn't stop him!
* looks around *
A few bottles of water might have survived after the explosion, maybe I can use them to help G!

Good idea!
PotaTeo, can you find them for us?

PotaTeo follows Artender's orders and slides away. Artender realizes that G and Xtress were completely focused on fighting each other to the point that Artender doubted Xtress realized they were even here.

** smirks **
Getting tired, Xtress?

Not even one bit, reptile!
* creates a purple smoke with his magic and blows it to G's face *

G starts coughing and gets confused.

Wh.. where am I?
Ugh... why do I feel so... tired?

* smiles *
I knew something was up with you!
* grabs G with his monster arm *
You are a lot stronger than you look, I will give you that.
Too bad it wasn't enough to beat ME, reptile!

* laughs like a maniac again *
Now this the end for you!

I DON'T THINK SO!

Sarpo throws his boomerang to distract Xtress just long enough so that G could escape from his clutches.

Thanks for the rescue Sarpo, I owe you one.

Don't mention it.
* looks at Team Bushra *
Cool powers by the way, they really suit you two.

Thanks man.

* takes a breath *
But now I need to ask you two something...
Do you guys have the trophy you won at the tournament?

I don't remember bringing it along-

You got it, chief!

The two look back to see Bushra using his powers to lift the trophy up into the air. Turns out PotaTeo did find the water bottles after all. But PotaTeo wasn't here, Bushra must have found it lying nearby instead. If so... where was he?

So... what do we need to do?

Fear not, pumpkins!
For I have the solution!
* picks up the trophy *
According to what my hoodsters have gathered, you two need to use your powers while focusing on the trophy.
And I need to use this ring of mine to reopen the portal!
That way, we can easily close the passageway to the Nor Plane!

(sarcasm) Wow, great exposition there.

Oh, just shut UP already!

* ignores the two's bickering *
Nevermind them, you two need to distract him so we can trap him in the Nor Plane again!

DISTRACT WHO?!

(terrified) Everybody, run away!

Before Xtress could send a laser towards the group, he sees something in the distance. Something that surprised him but also made him intrigued. PotaTeo was on top of the hill with a bunch people behind him. As it turns out, he recruited nearly every person on the battle field to fight against Xtress for the final time. Travelers, humans and even some hoodsters were behind the potato, ready to fight against this demigod.

* smirks *
This will be fun.

Ms. Meow sees Xtress being distracted by the army and shouts at Team Bushra.

Now is our chance!
Team Bushra, NOW!

Got it!

The two start using their powers while focusing on the trophy. The gem on the trophy also starts glowing red causing the portal slowly close itself.

* looks at Sarpo *
Sarpo! Help them lure him to the portal!

You got it, Cloe!

Sarpo rushes towards Xtress. He takes off his glasses, much to Xtress' surprise.

Hey, red face!
Over here!

HRGHH!
* looks back at the army running towards him and ignores them *
I will deal with those punks later.
Come back here, glassless fool!

Sarpo thought this was too easy until Xtress decided to play dirty.

STOP RIGHT THERE!
* extends his monster arm to grab Sarpo *
I'm NOT going back in there!..
(confused) WHAT ARE YOU SMIRKING AT?!

Did you think I would let you catch me without having some sort of backup plan?

The boomerang hits Xtress's head and Sarpo hits him on the head again with his metallic foot. Before Xtress could realize what was going on, the army was already here. Xtress tried to cast spells as fast as possible but it was not enough. He was getting pushed back to the portal by everyone in the army. The gang joined the army to finally put an end to Xtress' reign.

NO NO NO!
I WILL NOT BE DEFEATED!
YOU HAVE NOT... SEEN THE LAST OF ME!
I WILL BE BAC-

OH, JUST SHUT UP!

Everyone watched as Bushra did the final move, pushing Xtress towards the portal with his foot.

And so, it was actually over. The portal finished closing and everyone started celebrating. It didn't matter if they were all from different sides of the battle field or a different species at that moment. All that mattered was that they were finally safe. Sarpo finally did it, he and his friends put an end to Hood's plans. He could finally relax after such a long time.

We... we did it guys!

SARPO!

G!

The two hug.

I- I'm so glad you are okay!
We were...

You don't need to explain, it's all good.

Bushra was walking crippled towards them. Sarpo holds his hand to help him walk.

I got you!
How is my favourite fish fanatic?

Pretty good actually, aside from the very obvious leg injury.

That's great to hear, Bushra!
I'm sure the doctors here will gladly heal your injuries.

I hope so too.

Also Sarpo, may I tell you something-

Hold that thought.

Sarpo sees Cloe celebrating with her fellow Travelers. He wanted to talk her after what happened today.

Cloe? Can I have a moment of your time?

Sure!

How do I put this... I have been thinking about this for a long time...
Do you want to rebuild MPC as a whole with me?

Huh? For what reason?

Ever since you were gone, people started leaving left and right until I remained the ONLY member of MPC.
* reaches out his hand *
Maybe... we can start over.
Create a better MPC, filled with new people and with better management!

I... don't know Sarpo.
I- This is hard to take in.
But I will... think about it.

(upset) Fair enough, Cloe.
Fair enough...

Speaking of MPC...
* looks around *
Where's Hood?

Wait…

THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO TELL YOU!
SHE ESCAPED!

OH NO!

Sarpo looks around and just barely catches a glimpse of Hood escaping with some sort of rocket ship. He throws his boomerang to it, causing it to malfunction. He also heard Hood swearing from a distance.

Leaving without saying goodbye?

Hood doesn't respond. What else could she have said at that moment, she already knew what was about to happen. Unknown to her however, Sarpo had a different idea on his mind but even he knew that this decision could backfire at any point in the future.

We are not going to kill you.
You are just going to be taken to a prison.
How does that sound, Hood?

...
Do I have any other choice?

* shows his boomerang *
You do but I feel like you wouldn't want to hear them.

Sigh. Fine, I give up. Just take me away.

* smirks *
Consider this my gratitude for helping us get rid of Xtress (even though you started that too…)

…

And if you try to do something bad again with your toys and your dumb gimmicks, I WILL hunt you down and when that time arrives, I won't be THIS kind.
So, consider this your final warning.

…

* calls upon a few of the survivors *
Please take her to somewhere she can't run away from.
And Hood.
* Hood looks at him *
Have a good day.

T-thanks?

Sarpo watched as the crowd took Hood away. He looked at the now broken ship to see what Hood was trying to escape with. He realized that Hood planned to escape with the trophy. But to his surprise, the gem of the trophy was fully destroyed. He knew that it could not be recovered anymore. Sarpo was fully aware that they still needed to rebuild their society after this whole fiasco ended. But for now, all he cared about was his friends. He saw Artender and PotaTeo celebrating together, PotaTeo was even given a medal for being the one to inspire all the survivors to rejoin the battle. G and Bushra were supporting PotaTeo's victory and heck, meeting with him for the first time. Sarpo finally felt happiness after so long. Though he felt like they forgot about something. Something very crucial about the prophecy...

END OF PART 1… OR IS IT?!

CHAPTER 10.5: A NORMAL CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

1 month later;

It was a peaceful day on the planet known as Perdiah. Everyone was having fun, houses were being decorated with Christmas lights and people were buying trees for their houses. After Xtress' attack on the planet a month ago, everything was peaceful again. Even though it took them a while to rebuild a whole city for every survivor to stay in, our heroes still wanted to relax for the holiday.

Wake up, G!

* sleepy *
Just 5 more minutes, Bushra!

Dang it, G!
Why did you sleep so early in the day?!

Come on, man.
I helped out the townsfolk with decorating their Christmas trees!

But, G!
* slaps on him on the face *

OUCH!

Cat lady is calling us for dinner at her house!

Huh?!
* gets up while being half asleep *
Oh yeah... now I remember...
I hope it will be fun.

You bet!

* yawns *
I need to change my clothes to get into the Christmas spirit!
How about you?

Nah, I’m good.

Alright, then.
* wears an ugly Christmas sweater and takes off his headphones that reveals his one strand of hair *
Who else did she invite?

She invited... Artender, the potato guy, Sarpo plus me and you.
Pretty good lineup, eh?

Pretty much.
I'm glad we are gonna hang out as a group again.
I know we haven't really talked for the past week because of us helping the townsfolk out with the Christmas preparations but I'm glad we can relax for a change!

I feel the exact same, buddy!
And wanna know the best part?

Sure.
* chuckles *
Impress me.

* whispers *
I heard that she was preparing oven baked chicken and rice for the dinner!

NO WAY.

* smirks * What a coincidence, am I right?

I- I cannot believe she knew what my favourite food was!

Sorry to burst your bubble but I think it was just a big coincidence.

That's also fair.
* takes a breath *
So what are we waiting for? Let's go!

* smirks *
Ladies first.

Ha ha, very funny Bushra.
NOT.
Let's hurry, I can't wait to eat- I mean meet up with our gang again!

They went outside and saw a bunch of people were having a snowball fight. One of them was almost going to hit G and Bushra managed to stop the snowball in time with his powers.

Phew.
Close one.

Indeed.
* looks at the kid that threw the snowball *
Be careful next time, okay?

This way, Bushra!
We are almost there!

The two finally reach Ms. Meow's house. They saw PotaTeo building a snowman shaped like him in the garden.

How's it going, little dude?
Are you having fun?

* nods*

And where's Artender?
Is he with you?

PotaTeo nodded and pointed towards the entrance of the house.

Alright, thank you, little dude.
See you at the dinner table!

PotaTeo waved the two goodbye and continued building his snowman. The two knocked on the door only to be greeted by;

Hello, friends!
How is it going?

Hi, Artender!
How are you doing, buddy?

Oh, nothing much.
I was just helping Ms. Meow with the preparations.

I assume Sarpo is helping you two as well!

...actually, no.

Really now?

He didn’t even respond to our messages, I'm kind of worried about the guy.

* talks from inside the house *
Yeah, it's kind of strange.

Hold on.
Kinda out of topic but Hood IS still in prison, right?

Oh, of course!
Me and Sarpo are keeping an eye on her at all times. Pretty sure this isn't about her in any way.

Maybe I can go to his house to call him to the dinner party myself?

Sure.

(disappointed) Really?
Aren't you going to say something like…
* tries to mimic his voice *
"I will come with you, G!"?

G.
It's Christmas.
Let your man breath for one day, please.

You know what, fair enough.
Welp, I will see what Sarpo is up to.

Alright, don't be late!

Sure... hopefully.

G waves goodbye to PotaTeo before leaving the house entirely. G walked a bit and then arrived at Sarpo's house. He knocks the door. No response. He continued knocking on the door and still no response. He was starting to get even more worried. He thought to himself;

"Should I really use it? Sarpo might be in trouble.... yeah I should." He summons his hammer and busts the door wide open. At first he didn't see anything on the inside but after a while he noticed that there was light coming from Sarpo's office. He opened the office's door to see Sarpo watching hundreds of cameras, just waiting for something to happen.

Um... Sarpo?

Sarpo was shocked to hear his voice and threw his boomerang at him. G blocked the boomerang with his hammer at the last second.

HEY, WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?!

G?!
I'm so sorry man!
I did not see you-

* looks around *
What are you doing here?!
What is up with all of these cameras?

* sighs *
Let me show you.
* clicks on a few images, one of them was a car being stuck inside a whole tree, the other showed a person getting transformed into a lamb and so on *
You see the issue, G?
Ever since we took down Xtress, stuff like this started to occur!
I thought it wasn't anything important at first but then I got calls from all around Perdiah telling me that this stuff has been happening to them as well!
I JUST DON'T GET IT.
What did we do wrong!?

Calm down, dude, it will be-

I CAN'T!
You don't know what I had to deal with in the past month!
Since I'm the only MPC member left, I had to deal with everyone's wants.
You guys helped me out with all the hard work, sure.
But I still had to deal with everyone asking me questions constantly!
And now...
* points at the image *
THIS is happening on top of all of that!

(frustrated) So what?
Are you just going to sit here and ruin your once chance of taking a break?!

* sighs *
I don't even know.
* takes a sip out of his coffee *
It's just too overwhelming.

G thinks a bit, how could he convince him to take a break after so long...

Hey.
* Sarpo looks at him *
Say, weren't you talking about "remaking" MPC from the ground up earlier?
I would... love to join you guys if that's the case.

...

Sorry, if it was a sudden request, I just-

No, no, it’s alright.
* chuckles *
You know, I really wouldn’t mind that either.

That’s great!
I'm sure others would love to help you out with management as well!
Especially Ms. Meow!
* reaches out his hand *
So, what do you say?

* shakes his hand *
Fine, you are in.
This way, you and the others could help me out a ton with the investigations as well.

I'm so glad you agree.
* looks at his clothes *
Umm... are you sure you want to go there with this fit?

* looks at his clothes *
Yeah, that's fair.
Give me a second, I will be right back!

* giggles *
I swear, you did this last year as well when we were celebrating Christmas!
Ha ha!

* confused *
Last year?
We just met a few months ago, G.
Are you okay?

Oh... right.
Nevermind what I said.
I guess... I just imagined it.

G waits for Sarpo to change his clothes and then the two go to Ms. Meow's house. It turns out PotaTeo has finished building his snowman because he was nowhere to be seen. G knocks on the door.

Sup, G.
* looks at Sarpo *
Well look who just dropped in!
Hi, Sarpo!
Come in!

My pleasure, Bushra.

Hello, Sarpo!
Where have you been?

I was... busy with something.
I will explain it in more detail later but for now…
* takes a breath *
…it's time to enjoy some quality relaxing time.

That's the spirit!

Speaking of, dinner is ready!

OH BOY!

G runs towards the dinner table as fast as he could.

And, there he goes.

Everyone sits at their respective chairs around the dinner table.

Alright folks, you can start eating now!

G starts eating while everyone else wanted to chat a bit before eating.

* looks at Artender *
So buddy, what have you been up to?

Oh, I have been doing fine.
I just had to take care of this little guy right here.
* points at PotaTeo *
He's a little trouble maker.

* sees PotaTeo eating fried potatoes *
Erm... is no one gonna question that?
* looks around *
Anyone? Just me?.... Okay...

* tries to change the topic *

How about you Cloe?
Sorry for not answering you calls and messages by the way, I was... busy.

It's all good, Sarpo.
I haven't done much, really
Just checked up on Hood occasionally to make sure she was still in her cell.

That's great to hear.
* remembers something *
Hey, did we manage to catch every surviving hoodster after the incident?

I think we captured a decent amount of them but we lost track of one dangerous hoodster group in particular.

(confused) How so?

They apparently call themselves "The Rascals" and they are so powerful that they managed escape from all our men that encountered them.

Yeesh. That IS bad.
We really need to catch those hoodsters eventually.
* tries to get his mind off things and looks at G *
Man, was he hungry or something?
Why is he eating so fast?

It's his favourite food, Sarpo.
* takes a bite out of his fish sandwich *

Plus he worked way harder than any of us today.

Fair enough.

Meanwhile, Artender was scrolling through the channels on the TV.

(slowly gets frustrated) Come on, man!
There isn't anything interesting on TV!

* ignores Artender *
If everyone has finished their meals, we can finally celebrate the true meaning of Christmas!

You mean "the power of togetherness"?

Nope!
* points at the Christmas tree *
PRESENTS!

LET’S GO!

Everyone started giving people that they were assigned to, their gifts. When they were rebuilding the town, Ms. Meow made a suggestion on how they could deal with the presents for Christmas. She suggested that they would all be assigned to another person at random and would need to buy a gift for that same person. Nearly all of them agreed to that suggestion so they decided to implement it. G was assigned to PotaTeo and he knew just the present he was going to give him.

* calls PotaTeo*

Hey, little guy! I got you a present!
Open up!

PotaTeo opens the package and finds a skateboard inside it. Even though he could not talk, he seemed so happy. He started riding it inside the house. He was interested on who was going to give him a gift. He did not have to wait for long however because…

* smirks *
I should have known it was you, Bushra.

Well, you did not have to wait for long now, did you?

Certainly not!

G starts opening the package and sees that there was a fishing rod inside it.

SURPRISE!

WOAH!

What do you think, G?
Pretty epic, right?

* looks at the fishing rod in detail *
Yeah!
Thank you so much, dude!

No need to thank me, buddy.
Now that you have this, we can go on a fishing trip sometime!

You really think so?

Yep!
Just me and you on a boat, going fishing!
Doesn't that sound like fun?

It sure does!
* thinks a bit *
Wait, what did you get for your Christmas gift?

Oh. I got this.
* shows him a crude drawing of the entire crew structured like a group photo *
The potato guy gave it to me.
A charming fella, I must say.
Speaking of other people...
* looks around
I wonder what they got as gifts as well.
Should we check them out?

* giggles *
Sure. Why not?
* waves at Sarpo *
Yo Sarpo, what did you get?

Sarpo touches his robot arm and reveals that it can now turn into a sword.

Oh, you know?
Just a little upgrade.

That’s so sick!

Sure is!

* waves at Artender *
Hey buddy, what did you get?

I got a pair of brand new glasses.
It looks pretty cool.
Sarpo got it for me.

That's great to hear, buddy.
It's the thought that counts after all!

Woah, I haven't heard you say something like that before
(sarcastic) When did you learn that phrase, sir Bushra?

(also sarcastic) Well Mr. Doodle, I learned it from the cat lady.
She said that phrase to me while you were gone to get Sarpo.

That makes sense.
Speaking of Ms. Meow... Yo Ms. Meow!
What did you get for Christmas?

She shows them the new sweater she got from Artender. But the sweater looked like it was used already and had clear stains on top of them.

Pretty cool, right?

Uh… it’s certainly… unique.
* whispers to Bushra *
We need to pretend that we like it.

* also whispers *
Yeah, we need to get out before she finds out what we really think.

Hmm... I don't like the look on you two's faces.
Is there something wrong with the sweater?!

Nope, not one in the slightest.

Just like he said!

Suddenly, Artender comes to the rescue!

What are you guys bickering about?
* sees the sweater *
Oh crap!

He grabs the sweater out of Ms. Meow’s hands.

HEY!

Sorry Ms. Meow but I think I gave you the wrong sweater.
That was for someone else, another friend of mine in town.
Your sweater was supposed to be dark red, not brown.

Oh. That makes sense.
But how did this even happen?

Ho ho ho!

SANTA?!

Hello there, kids-

Before he could finish his sentence, everyone attacked him from sheer panic. Santa ran away from the house in fear, never coming back. Everyone looked at each other, confused. They tried to act like normal but it was clear that it wasn't the case.

(scared)Who... WHAT was that?!

I think it might have been the actual Santa.

Bu- but... how???

I think that's a story left to be answered another day.

Well... merry Christmas, Ms. Meow?

* grabs the sweater out of his arms *
Tha- thanks?

Ms. Meow leaves the scene in embarrassment and goes to play cards with Sarpo and PotaTeo.

That was... an experience.
* looks at the couch
Hey, G, want to watch some TV?

…sure.

Bushra cycles through the channels until he arrives at the channel that streams movies.

Oh, I know of this film!
It's about a funny vampire guy!

A what now?
Can you explain that to me in exhausting detail?

And so, our heroes had an amazing Christmas together. Even though nearly all of them originate from different places, they all bonded over times like this. And it was an experience no one on there could forget. (Although they were all probably now in Santa's naughty list.)

END OF PART 1… FOR REAL THIS TIME.

G DOODLE

"G" DOODLE IS A HUMAN WHO USED TO LIVE ON TOWN MERCIA. HE WAS KNOWN AS THE "FOREST MONSTER" BY THE TOWNSFOLK BEFORE HOOD ATTACKED TOWN MERCIA. ORIGINALLY, HE HAD A PURPLE OUTFIT WHICH HE NEVER TOOK OFF DUE TO PERSONAL REASONS. AFTER THE ATTACKS HOWEVER, HE DECIDED TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF BY NOW WEARING A GREEN OUTFIT, PINK SHOES AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, HIS HEADPHONES... WHICH HE NEVER USES FOR THEIR INTENDED PURPOSE. AFTER SOME MUMBO JUMBO RELATED TO A CERTAIN DEMIGOD, HE GAINED THE POWER OF WIELDING A HAMMER! NOW HE FIGHTS ALONGSIDE BUSHRA TO KEEP PLANET PERDIAH SAFE!

BUSHRA STOKED

BUSHRA STOKED IS A FISHERMAN WHO ALSO USED TO LIVE ON TOWN MERCIA. JUST LIKE G, HE USED TO HAVE A PRETTY NORMAL LIFE UNTIL THAT ONE FAITHFUL DAY. BUSHRA USED TO BE A PRETTY GRUMPY AND SPITEFUL PERSON BEFORE HE STARTED ADVENTURING ALONGSIDE G AND SARPO. IN THAT TIME PERIOD OF HIS LIFE, HE FINALLY LEARNED WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO HAVE "FRIENDS" AND HAVE EMPATHY. AFTER ENCOUNTERING THE SAME DEMIGOD AS G, HE GAINED WATER POWERS. WHILE NOT AS FLASHY AS G'S HAMMER POWER, BUSHRA'S POWERS ARE MUCH MORE EFFICIENT AND VERSATILE.

FACTOID

G'S OLD DESIGN WASN'T SUPPOSED TO EXIST ORIGINALLY. G WAS GOING TO START THE SERIES WITH HIS GREEN ATTIRE BEFORE I CHANGED MY MIND FOR FUTURE STORY REASONS.

HOOD RILEY

HOOD RILEY, ALSO KNOWN AS MEMBER #1, IS THE CURRENT BOSS OF THE HOODSTERS. AFTER THE CASINO FIASCO, HOOD COMMANDED HER HOODSTERS TO FIND TEAM BUSHRA AND BRING THEM TO HER. ALL OF HER PLANS FOR WORLD DOMINATION WERE THWARTED BY MPC. HER BIGGEST RIVALS ARE SARPO AND HIS "FRIEND", MS. MEOW. HOOD HAS A RED RING THAT SHE CAN USE TO TAKE OR GIVE BACK THE LIFE ESSENCES OF HER HOODSTERS. SHE'S ALSO TRANS!

ARTENDER DOWELL

ARTENDER DOWELL IS A CITIZEN LIVING IN TOWN MERCIA. HE USED TO BE UNHAPPY WITH WHERE HIS LIFE WAS HEADING AFTER NOT ACCOMPLISHING ANYTHING MOST OF HIS LIFE. BUT EVERYTHING CHANGED ONCE HOOD AND HER HOODSTERS ATTACKED TOWN MERCIA. AFTER SURVIVING THE INITAL ATTACK AND SURVIVING IN G'S OLD HOUSE, HE JOINED THE REST OF THE SURVIVORS TO FIGHT AGAINST HOOD. AFTER THE WAR ENDED, HE BECAME A FULL-TIME LUMBERJACK. LITTLE DID HE KNOW WHAT WAS ON THE HORIZON...

HOOD RILEY

CLOE MEOW, ALSO KNOWN AS THE SHOWRUNNER OF CIRCUS KURZA, IS A TRAVELER CAT. AFTER THE WAR BETWEEN HUMANS AND TRAVELERS ENDED, CLOE DECIDED TO HELP EVERYONE IN NEED REGARDLESS OF THEIR SPECIES. AFTER CLOE JOINED MPC FOR THEIR CAUSE, SHE GREW ATTACHED TO A MPC MEMBER CALLED SARPO. AFTER THEIR RELATIONSHIP GOT TORN APART BECAUSE OF A FAILED MISSION, SHE STARTED RUNNING CIRCUS KURZA WITH HER CLAN BY HER SIDE. NOW THAT THE BATTLE AGAINST HOOD IS OVER, WHO KNOWS WHAT NEW ADVENTURES WILL AWAIT HER AND HER SPECIAL ONE.

SARPO FIELDS

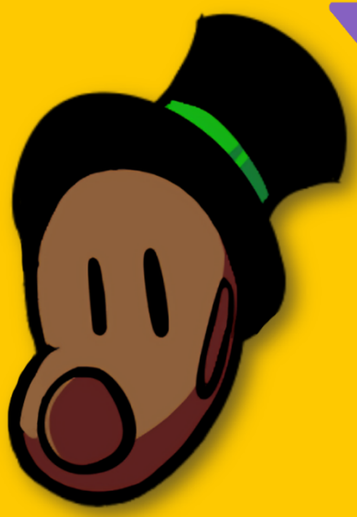
SARPO FIELDS IS AN MPC MEMBER SENT TO RESCUE TEAM BUSHRA AND TO FOIL HOOD'S PLANS. AFTER HALF OF HIS BODY GOT ROBOTICIZED DUE TO A FAILED MISSION AND ONE OF HIS ONLY FRIENDS LEAVING MPC, HE BECAME REALLY LONELY. THANKFULLY, CLOE COLLABORATED WITH HIM ONCE MORE DURING THE FINAL BATTLE AGAINST HOOD. WITH HIS NEW CYBORG BODY, HE GAINED NEW SKILLS. NOT TO MENTION HIS ICONIC, BOOMERANG OF DOOM... THAT HE NEVER USES. NOW THAT PERDIAH IS SAVED ONCE MORE, WHO KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN BETWEEN HIM AND CLOE...

KYLE LAWRENCE

KYLE LAWRENCE, ALSO REFERRED TO AS MEMBER #2 BY THEIR PEERS, IS THE LOVE INTEREST OF MAIZIE. THEY AND MAIZIE MET LONG BEFORE THE TWO JOINED HOOD. KYLE WAS INFAMOUS FOR THEIR LACK OF SOCIAL SKILLS AND TERRIBLE PICK-UP LINES IN THE HOODSTER ARMY. EVEN THOUGH KYLE ISN'T SKILLED AT MELEE COMBAT, THEY ARE REALLY GOOD AT ENCOURAGING THEIR HOODSTER COMRADES. BUT OF COURSE THEIR MOST PRECIOUS BEAN, MAIZIE, CAME FIRST. IT IS JUST UNFORTUNATE THAT IT ALL HAD TO END THIS WAY.

MAIZIE THORN

MAIZIE THORN, ALSO KNOWN BY HER PEERS AS MEMBER #3, IS A HOODSTER THAT SERVED HOOD ALONGSIDE HER LOVE INTEREST, KYLE. EVEN THOUGH SHE WORKED FOR HOOD, SHE WAS STILL UNSURE IF WHAT SHE WANTED. SHE AND KYLE ONLY JOINED THE HOODSTERS BECAUSE OF THEIR FEAR FOR THE PROPHECY. AFTER MAIZIE FAILED ONE OF HER MOST IMPORTANT MISSIONS HOWEVER, SHE LOST THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON IN HER LIFE. WHILE SHE COULDN'T DO MUCH AFTER THAT FAITHFUL DAY, SHE WAS LEFT BURIED UNDER THE REMAINS OF THE FINAL BASE... NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN...



POTATEO

POTATEO IS A SENTIENT POTATO WHO JUST HAPPENED TO HAVE STUMBLED UPON ARTENDER. EVEN THOUGH HE CAME OUT OF NOWHERE, ARTENDER REALIZED THAT HE WAS JUST A FRIENDLY VEGETABLE WITH THE BRAIN CAPACITY OF A LITTLE KID. AFTER THE WAR ENDED, ARTENDER STARTED TAKING CARE OF THE LITTLE GUY ALL ON HIS OWN. POTATEO'S ORIGINS ARE STILL UNKNOWN TO THIS DAY...

XTRESS

XTRESS IS AN EVIL SORCERER WHOM WAS SEALED INTO THE NOR PLANE IN A FROZEN STATE AFTER BETRAYING THE HUMANS IN THE WAR BETWEEN BOTH SPECIES. THE HUMANS QUICKLY TRIED TO FIX THEIR MISTAKES BY WRITING THE PROPHECY ON THE WALLS OF CAVE INTERTIA BEFORE XTRESS FOUND THEM. AFTER HOOD'S ANCESTORS LEARNED OF THE PROPHECY, THEY TRIED TO SAVE XTRESS FROM NOR PLANE BUT TO NO AVAIL. EVEN THOUGH IT SEEMED LIKE THEY GOT RID OF HIM, WHO KNOWS WHEN HE WILL RETURN...

FACTOID

SINCE ARC1 HAS ENDED, HOOD HAS NOW BEEN... WELL, UNMASKED! TAKE A PEEK AT HER NEW DESIGN WE WILL BE USING GOING FORWARD!

FACTOID

ARTENDER WAS ORIGINALLY BASED ON THE YOUTUBER CALLED "ARTSYDOESSTUFF" BEFORE BECOMING A CHARACER SEPERATE FROM HIM, MUCH LIKE G HIMSELF.

CONCEPT DRAWINGS

@PAWLUREII

@SONIC32SUPER

@SURELY_SOMEBODY

@VIDDO3K

@FEXARII_

@SOHEKUN

FACTOID

XTRESS ORIGINALLY HAD ONE REGULAR ARM AND ONE MONSTER ARM INSTEAD OF HAVING TWO MONSTER ARMS.

TEAM BUSHRA

TEAM BUSHRA IS A GROUP CONSISTING OF "G" DOODLE AND WELL... BUSHRA STOKED! BUSHRA INITIALLY CHOSE THIS NAME FOR THE DUO BECAUSE OF HIS MASSIVE EGO. WHILE G DIDN'T LIKE THE NAME AT FIRST, HE IS PRETTY MUCH ON BOARD WITH IT NOW.

MAGIC PROTECTOR CAMP

MAGIC PROTECTOR CAMP, ALSO KNOWN AS MPC, IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE NOT AFFLIATED WITH THE ROYAL GUARDS. THEY ALSO HELP PEOPLE FIGHT OFF AGAINST HOOD'S FORCES. IT WAS FORMED SHORTLY AFTER HOOD CREATED THE HOODSTER ARMY. AS TIME WENT ON HOWEVER, MORE AND MORE PEOPLE STARTED LEAVING MPC FOR THEIR PERSONAL REASONINGS. INCLUDING HIS BELOVED, CLOE MEOW.

CIRCUS KURZA

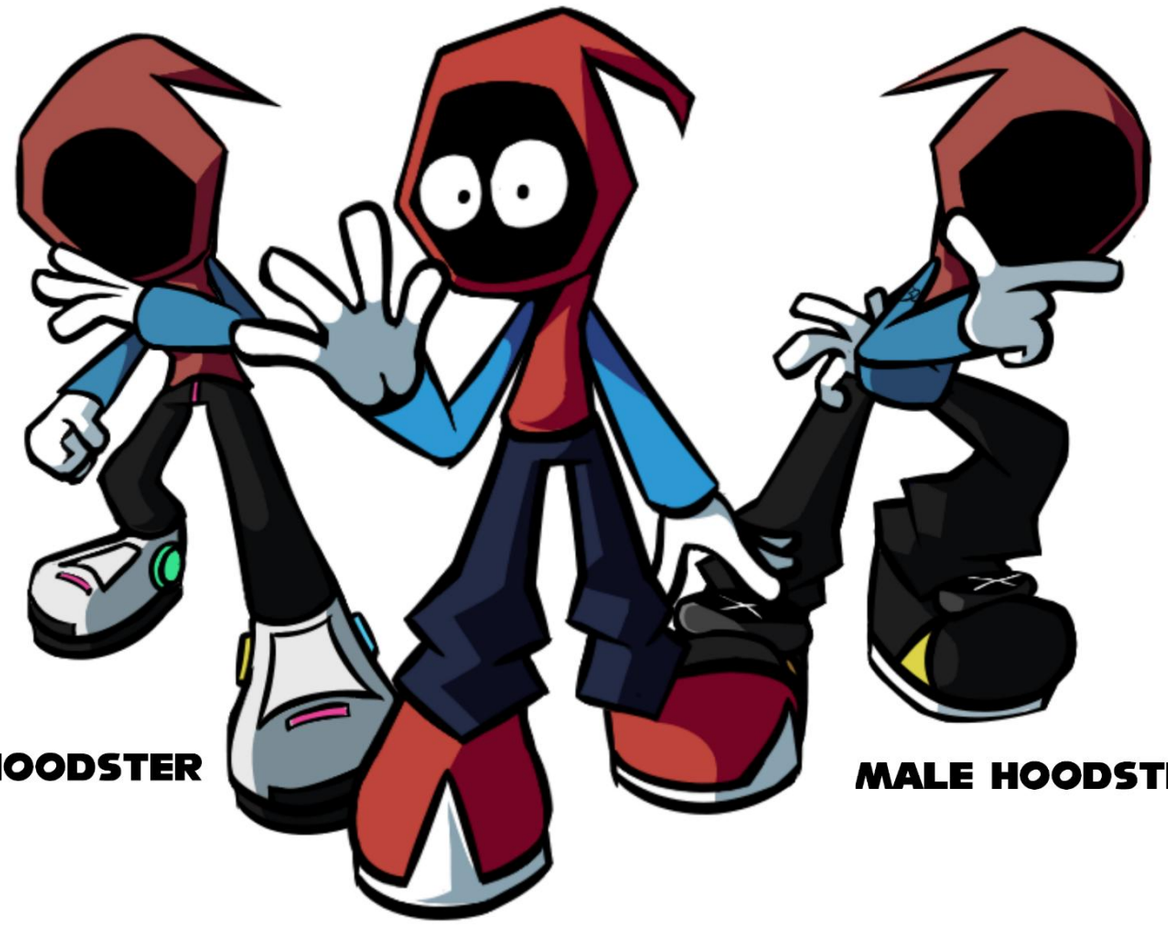
CIRCUS KURZA IS A CIRCUS RUN BY CLOE MEOW. THE CIRCUS BAND CONSISTS OF TRAVELERS ALL AROUND PERDIAH. AFTER THE WAR BETWEEN THE TWO SPECIES, MOST TRAVELERS STARTED TO INHABIT IN THE FORESTS UP UNTIL CLOE HAD THE BRILLIANT IDEA TO START A CIRCUS BAND WITH A GIANT CARAVAN TO BOOT. NOW THAT THE BATTLE AGAINST HOOD HAD CONCLUDED, THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT THE FUTURE OF CIRCUS KURZA WILL ENTAIL...

THE HOODSTERS

THE HOODSTERS ARE A GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT SERVE HOOD AND HER IDEALS. HOODSTERS ALL HAVE DIFFERENT REASONS FOR JOINING HOOD'S SIDE. SOME JOINED BECAUSE OF THEIR FEAR OF THE PROPHECY, SOME JOINED BECAUSE OF HOOD'S MANIPULATION AND OF COURSE, SOME WERE JUST BAD PEOPLE WHO WERE WILLING TO GIVE UP THEIR LIFE ESSENCES TO CONTINUE THEIR HEINOUS ACTIONS.

HOODSTER TYPES

THERE ARE A BUNCH OF HOODSTER TYPES WHOM RESIDE IN ONE OF HOOD'S MANY BASES AROUND PLANET PERDIAH.



FEMALE HOODSTER

MALE HOODSTER

DAN

THE SMOOCHING OF '87

IN THE HOODSTER ARMY, THERE ARE A BUNCH OF RUMORS FLOATING AROUND EVERY DAY. HOWEVER, ONE OF THE MOST INFAMOUS RUMORS WAS AN INCIDENT DUBBED "THE SMOOCHING OF '87".

ONE DAY, MEMBER #73 (ALSO KNOWN AS DAN) GOT ORDERS FROM HOOD TO CALL MEMBER #2 AND MEMBER #3 TO HER OFFICE. WHEN HE ENTERED THEIR ROOM HOWEVER... HE WITNESSED SOMETHING UTTERLY HORRIFYING.

NO ONE KNOWS WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED TO MEMBER #73 THAT DAY BUT ONE THING WAS FOR CERTAIN;
"NEVER ENTER THEIR ROOM WITHOUT KNOCKING ON THE DOOR."

REWRITES OF CHAPTER 1 AND 5

BEFORE I STARTED WORKING ON THE VOLUME RELEASE, I PROMISED EVERYONE A REWRITE OF CH1 WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE VOLUME. BUT AFTER RE-READING ALL OF THE CHAPTERS BACK TO BACK, I DECIDED THAT CH5 ALSO NEEDED A SEVERE REWRITE. HERE IS WHAT I EXACTLY WANTED TO ACCOMPLISH WITH THESE REWRITES.

LOOKING BACK AT CHAPTER 1, IT REALLY WASN'T THE GREATEST REPRESENTATION FOR WHAT TE:R EVENTUALLY TURNED INTO. IT HAD A GOOD FOUNDATION BUT THAT WAS ABOUT IT. BUT NOW THAT I REWROTE THE WHOLE THING, I CAN CONFIDENTLY SAY THAT... YEAH, IT'S A PRETTY SOLID CHAPTER NOW. THE ADDED SCENES OF G AND BUSHRA ARGUING, THE WHOLE REFERENCE HEAVY STUFF GETTING REMOVED, SOME FORESHADOWING REGARDING MPC AND SO ON REALLY MADE IT FIT MORE IN LINE WITH THE OTHER CHAPTERS.

THE ORIGINAL VERSION OF CHAPTER 5 WAS ONE OF MY LEAST FAVOURITE CHAPTERS FOR A GOOD WHILE. NOT ONLY WAS IT RUSHED, IT WAS WRITTEN AS I WENT ALONG. WHICH, AS YOU CAN GUESS, LED TO A LOT OF IDEAS GETTING THROWN IN AND NONE OF THEM HAVING THE TIME TO GET FLESHED OUT. ALL THE CHAPTER ACCOMPLISHED WAS SARPO GETTING CAPTURED AND A BIT OF FORESHADOWING FOR THE PROPHECY. BUT NOW, IT'S A LOT BETTER.

THE ENDING SCENE WITH HOOD AND KYLE WENT THROUGH A BUNCH OF REWRITES UNTIL I WAS SATISFIED WITH ONE WHICH CAPTURED THE SPIRIT OF THE ORIGINAL SCENE. NOW IT TEASES SOMETHING FAR MORE INTERESTING GOING FORWARD...

REFERENCES TO UNDERTALE WITH THE MAGICAL DOOR APPEARING IN THE MIDDLE OF A CAVE PLUS SARPO'S SECTION OF THE CHAPTER BEING EXPANDED UPON ALSO HELPED THE PACING.

BUSHRA'S EARTH POWERS

BUSHRA STOKED WAS ORIGINALLY SUPPOSE TO HAVE EARTH POWERS. BUT IT WAS SCRAPPED DUE TO TWO REASONS. FIRST ONE BEING THAT HIS REDESIGN DIDN'T MATCH THE EARTH POWERS IDEA AND TWO, I WANTED IT HIS POWERS TO WORK TOGETHER WITH G'S HAMMER POWER. NOW BOTH OF THEM CAN SUPPORT EACH OTHER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BATTLEFIELD!

THE XTRESS CONFRONTATION

XTRESS WAS ORIGINALLY GOING TO BE TEASED ALL THE WAY BACK IN CH2 AFTER THE SCENE WHERE HOOD GOT THE STATUS REPORTS FROM MEMBER #423. HOOD WOULD ENTER A ROOM VIA AN UNKNOWN PASSWORD AND WOULD CONFRONT HER MASTER'S SPIRIT. THIS IDEA WAS SCRAPPED PRETTY EARLY ON. THEN I WENT FOR THE NOR PLANE IDEA TO GIVE HOOD HER OWN SPOTLIGHT AS THE MAIN BIG BAD RATHER THAN BEING SECOND IN COMMAND TO AN UNNAMED GODLY BEING.

HOODSTER CHAPTER

AT SOME POINT IN THE WRITING PROCESS, THERE WAS GOING TO BE AN ENTIRELY HOODSTERS CENTRIC CHAPTER (MARKETED AS A .5 LIKE EPISODE BUSHRA) BEFORE BEING SCRAPPED. IF THIS WASN'T SCRAPPED, CHAPTER 6 WOULDN'T INCLUDE THE KYLE AND MAIZIE PLOTLINE AND THAT EXACT SAME PLOTLINE WOULD BE TOLD IN THIS CHAPTER. THE FINAL PRODUCT (CHAPTER 6) BASICALLY TOOK A LOT OF ELEMENTS FROM THAT SCRAPPED CHAPTER AND REUSED THEM.

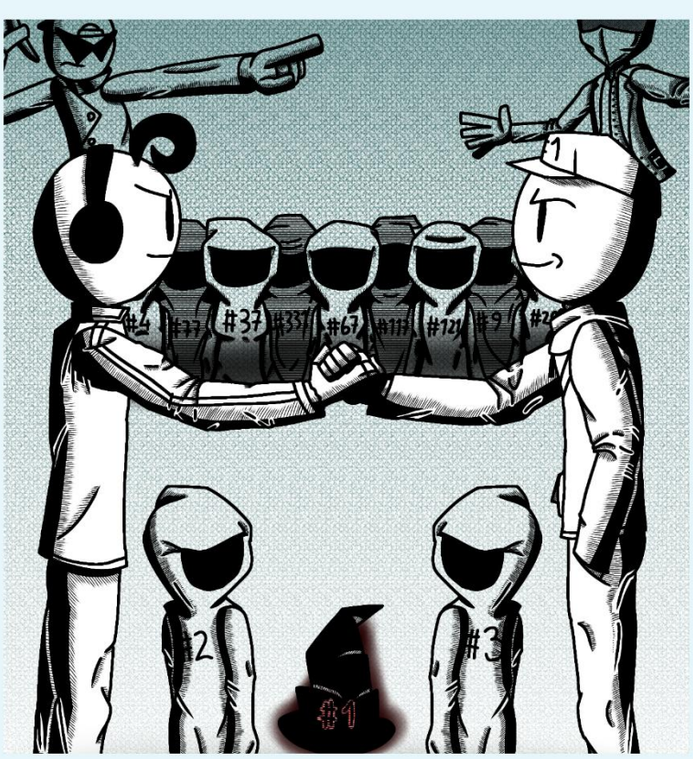
PRE-RELEASE THOUGHTS

I HAVE MADE IT NO SECRET IN THE PAST THAT TE:R WAS BASED ON MY OLD COMICS THAT I USED TO DRAW IN MIDDLE SCHOOL. WHILE THOSE COMICS ARE UNFORTUNATELY LOST MEDIA, I WAS STILL VERY FOND OF THOSE CHARACTERS. THE ONLY CHARACTER THAT WAS BROUGHT BACK FROM THOSE COMICS FOR A VERY LONG TIME WAS MY MASCOT, TURTLEDOODLE. AFTER YEARS PASSED BY, I REALIZED THAT I WANTED TO GIVE THESE CHARACTERS ONE FINAL CHANCE IN THE SPOTLIGHT... AND IT PAYED OFF AT THE END.

FIRSTLY, I WANTED TO GIVE EACH OF THEM REDESIGNS THAT WERE MORE THAN JUST MERE STICK FIGURES. SOME REALLY TALENTED FOLKS HELPED ME OUT A TON DURING THIS PROCESS.

IN THE MEANTIME HOWEVER, I WANTED TO ADD NEW CHARACTERS ON TOP OF THE NEWLY REDESIGNED CAST. I REALIZED PRETTY EARLY ON THAT THE SERIES NEEDED NEWCOMERS TO BALANCE OUT ALL THE REUSED MATERIAL SO THAT WAS MY REASONING FOR THIS DECISION.

WHILE IT DID TAKE SOME TIME FOR ALL OF THESE CHARACTERS TO BECOME UNIFIED IN ONE ART STYLE, I'M STILL VERY HAPPY ABOUT THE FINAL RESULT.



THE OLD CONTINUITY

ALL THIS TALK ABOUT THE DESIGNS REMINDED ME... JUST HOW ACTUALLY INSANE THE OLD TIMELINE REALLY WAS. IT ALL STARTED WITH FILLER STORYLINES TO PAD OUT THE COMICS. SOME OF MY FAVOURITES INCLUDE; BUSHRA AND G GOING FISHING TOGETHER, BUSHRA AND POTATEO PRANKING HOOD ON APRIL FOOLS DAY AND SARPO THROWING A PARTY ETC.

WHILE I DO A LOT OF FONDNESS TOWARDS THOSE STORIES, IT WAS PRETTY CLEAR EARLY ON THAT I PREFERRED WRITING MORE SERIALIZED STORIES (THIS IS NO LONGER THE CASE NOWADAYS)

ASIDE FROM THE FILLER STORIES HOWEVER, I USED THESE CHARACTERS TO "ADAPT" THE HYPERFIXATIONS I HAD AT THE TIME. WITH AMAZING STORYLINES LIKE G AND FRIENDS LIVING THROUGH AN ALTERED VERSION OF THE EVENTS FROM... MINECRAFT STORY MODE SEASON 2 OF ALL THINGS. WHILE MY INSPIRATIONS FROM OTHER MEDIA HAS NEVER LEFT TE:R, I NO LONGER WANT TO BLATANTLY STEAL A STORYLINE AND WRITE IT WITH MY CHARACTERS IN MIND.

AND NOW, WE ARE AT THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF THE PLANNING PHASE. I HAD TO PICK A STARTING POINT. AFTER LOOKING THROUGH ALL MY OLD STORIES, I CHOSE THE SHOCKINGLY DULL TITLED "HOOD'S DOMAIN" ARC. IT WAS AN INTRODUCTION ARC FOR HOOD AS A CHARACTER SO I WANTED TO USE THAT AS THE INTRODUCTION ARC FOR THE SERIES.

THERE WAS ONE ISSUE HOWEVER, WHO WAS GOING TO BE THE DRIVING FORCE THAT WOULD FIGHT HOOD AND HER GOONS? THAT'S WHEN M.P.C WAS BORN. I WANTED SARPO AND CLOE TO BE A PART OF THIS FACTION SO THAT THEY COULD MEET WITH TEAM BUSHRA IN THE STORY. AND JUDGING BY HOW THE STORY IS NOW... YEAH IT WAS DEFINITELY THE RIGHT CALL. THEIR DYNAMIC IS REALLY FUN TO WRITE FOR.

FANART

@FANGNULL

ASMR TO HELP YOU SLEEP- Beating you until you're sleeping with the fishes

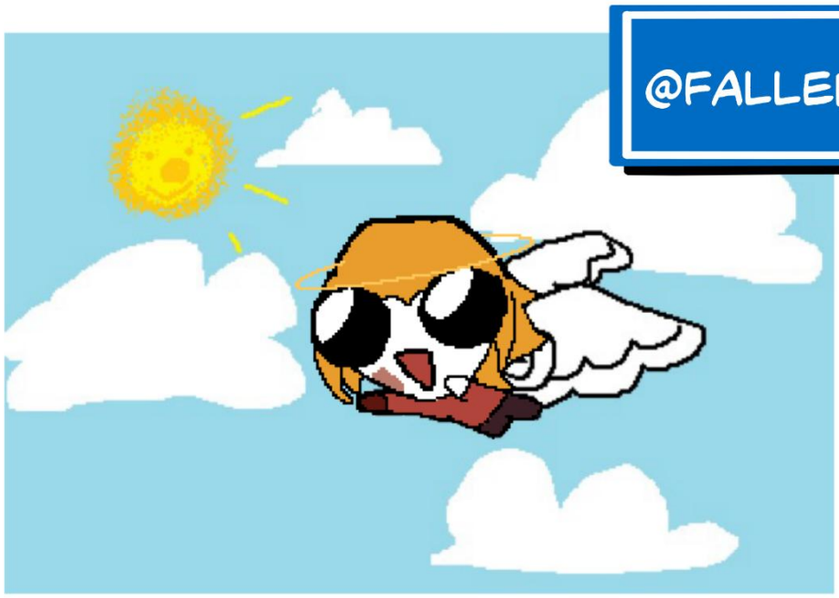
Bush-a fishes · 174K views · 2 weeks ago

@VIDDO3K

@VIDDO3K

@VIDDO3K

@FALLENLIES_



@SOHEKUN

@VIDDO3K

@SONIC32SUPER

@SOHEKUN

@SONIC32SUPER

NOW THAT WE ARE OFFICIALLY DONE WITH THE VOLUME 'S BONUS CONTENT, I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT I HOPE YOU ENJOYED " THE RISE OF THE HOODSTERS" WHILE IT ISN'T PERFECT SINCE THE ENTIRE ARC WAS JUST ME GETTING THE GROOVE OF THINGS BEFORE WRITING THE OVERALL BETTER RECEIVED 2ND ARC.

SPEAKING OF WHICH...

Blogger

YEAHHH! YOU CAN CHECK OUT THE REST OF THE CHAPTERS FROM THE BLOG CALLED "TURTLE'S CAN'T RUN" AND THE OFFICIAL TER WEBSITE ON CARRD. YOU CAN FIND ALL THE CHAPTERS THERE BEFORE THEY GET COMPILED TO THE VOLUMES! GO CHECK THEM OUT IF YOU ARE INTERESTED!

AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR READING 🙏 HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL ON THE NEXT VOLUME WHEN IT RELEASES!

The KAME Show

CHECK OUT OUR PODCAST AS WELL!

NEXT TIME...